FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 006

10 January 1983

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Possible Andean Pact Revitalization Seen A 1

ARGENTINA

Reportage on Thatcher's Visit to Falklands B 1
Thatcher Arrives B 1
TELAM Reaction B 1
No Immediate Official Reaction B 1
Foreign Minister's Statement B 2
Aguirre Lanari at Managua Nonaligned Meeting B 3
Departs for Nicaragua B 3
Initial Comments on Arrival B 3
Previews Meeting B 4

BOLIVIA

Reportage on Effect of UDP Government Discord C 1
Discord Causes Concern C 1
President Seeks Unity C 1
6 MIR Ministers Resign 8 January C 2
MIR Withdrawal Denied C 2

BRAZIL

President Suspends Building of Nuclear Plants D 1
IMF Requirements for Granting Loan Accepted D 1
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 7 Jan]
Government Studying Salary Policy Changes D 1
Engesa Developing New Armored Cars, Cannons D 2
Exocets May Be Acquired for New Corvettes [O GLOBO 3 Jan] D 2

COLOMBIA

Army Commander Denies Charges of Torture F 1
Inravision Cancels Newscast Due to Debt F 1
Commentary on Cancellation F 1

PERU

Belaunde Terry Rejects Possibility of Coup J 1
President on Nonaligned Meeting in Nicaragua J 1
Further Reportage on Shining Path Activities J 2
Attack in Vischongos J 2
3 Persons Executed in Chincay J 2
Corporal Murdered, Radio Station Threatened J 2
Havana Reportage on Shining Path Activities J 3
On Situation in Ayacucho J 3
On Murder Charges, Arrests J 3

MEXICO

Sepulveda Amor Leaves for Isla Contadora Meeting M 1
Foreign Affairs Commission Comments on Policy M 1
Salvadoran Embassy Occupied To Protest Arrests M 1
EEC President Pledges Increased Investments M 2
Talks With Foreign Secretary M 2
IMCE Reports 11-Month Trade Surplus M 3
Pemex To Cooperate With Bribe Investigation M 3

PANAMA

Foreign Ministers Meeting Ends; Urge Dialogue N 1
President Terms Meeting 'Important' N 1
Minister Solis Explains 1983 Investment Budget N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Eden Pastora Bodyguard Killed in Auto Accident P 1

EL SALVADOR

Anti-Garcia Crisis Unfolds in Cabanas Department P 1
Colonel Ochoa Heads Revolt P 1
Garcia Decisions Opposed P 1
Ochoa 7 Jan Interview P 2
Unit Issues Communique P 4
Ochoa Claims Wide Support P 5
Ochoa Supports President Magana P 6
Garcia Withholds Comment P 7
Magana Meeting With Military Chiefs P 7
Further Ochoa Interview P 8
Cabanas Governor Holds Interview P 10
Statement by Mediator P 12
Communique on Mediator's Visit P 13
Garcia Will Not Resign P 14
Mediation Commission Appointed P 14
More on Commission P 15
Rally Supports Ochoa P 15
9 Jan Ochoa Interview P 16

GUATEMALA

Talks With UK on Belize To Resume 24 January P 18
Spokesman on Resumption of U.S. Military Aid P 18
President Rios Montt Confirms Cabinet Officers P 19
Colonel Gordillo Discharged; Explains Position P 19

HONDURAS

U.S. Intelligence Officer Arrives for Visit P 20
Pineda Lopez Appointed Ambassador to Nicaragua P 20
Nonaligned Summit Observer Status Sought P 21

NICARAGUA

Second Protest Note for 1983 Sent to U.S. P 21
Visiting U.S. Mission Leaves for Honduras P 21
Havana Report on Visit P 22

CUBA

Castro Comments on Salvadoran Conflict [Santo Domingo] Q 1
Fidel Castro Decorates L.A. Intellectuals Q 1
Castro: U.S. Opposes Peaceful Regional Solution Q 1
Moves Against Nonaligned Meeting Criticized Q 2
Foreign Minister on Nonaligned Session [TELAM] Q 3
Delegation to Managua Nonaligned Meeting Departs Q 3
Malmierca Explains Stand on Area Problems Q 4

OTHER COUNTRIES

CHILE

Foreign Debt Projections, Growth Noted [EL MERCURIO 28 Dec] V 1

URUGUAY

Minidevaluations, Fixed Exchange Rates Planned V 1

POSSIBLE ANDEAN PACT REVITALIZATION SEEN

PA090557 Paris AFP in Spanish 1727 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jan (AFP) -- Observers in Bogota today felt that the Andean Pact, created 13 years ago by the governments of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, today received a booster shot of optimism and a push toward survival following the Ecuadorean decision to lift all restrictions placed on Colombian imports.

The reactivation of the subregional agreement was further guaranteed today when Venezuela decided to review its restrictions on the import of various products. Venezuela announced that it will take into consideration the cases that could affect the integration of the Andrean countries, and with this mind the restrictions will be reviewed to favor commercial exchange.

For its part, Ecuador said that it will eliminate all restriction placed on Colombian and Venezuelan imports, and explained that the economic measures recently taken will be reviewed. Orlando Alcivar, Eduadorean industry, commerce and integration minister, informed the Colombian Government via telephone of the decision made regarding the limitations placed on products in more than 600 tariff listings.

On the other hand, Gustavo Tobon, director of the Colombian Institute of Foreign Trade (Incomex), today said that "the decision made by the Ecuadorean Government and the announcement made by Venezuela relieve the tension and create more favorable conditions for the Santa Cruz, Bolivia, meeting."

"We will have to look at the process with realism; see what can be done and what can't; see what we want and what we don't want, and agree only on what can be done," Tobon added. He asked the plenipotentiary ministers of the five countries that make up the Cartagena Agreement to analyze the situation frankly during the Santa Cruz meeting and avoid allowing suggestions made for saving the situation to fall on barren ground. Tobon reiterated that during that meeting Colombia would direct its actions toward seeking mutual objectives and observance and, as much as possible, toward trying to rescue the spirit of unity that was lost through a lack of political will.

"We will insist on the need to create an Andean justice tribunal so that there will be an organization that looks into the fulfillment of the agreements and the real [word indistinct] of the process," Tobon added.

Following this, the analysts agreed that everything today favors the reactivation of the Andean Pact, while in Venezuela the Coordinating Board of the subregional agreement so carrying out talks with Luis Herrera Campins' government so that Venezuela will follow in Ecuador's footsteps in its imports and export policy toward the Andrean nations.

Sebastian Alegrett, president of the Venezuelan Foreign Trade Institute, announced in Caracas that his country will take into consideration the cases that could affect the integration of Andean Pact members. "Venezuela is willing to review the restrictions it has imposed on imports in order to favor commercial exchange in the Andean Pact," Alegrett said.

On the other hand, Colombian foreign trade authorities have reaffirmed their faith that Venezuela will lift the restrictions imposed 3 months ago. This would, once again, allow all the differences among the member countries to be overcome in order to arrive in Santa Cruz with specific plans to revitalize the commerical relations for which the Andean Pact was created, the Colombian observers added.

REPORTAGE ON THATCHER'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS

Thatcher Arrives

PY082127 Paris AFP in Spanish 2112 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] London, 8 Jan (AFP) -- According to an official announcement made today at the prime minister's official residence on Downing Street, London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived at Port Stanley today for a short visit. Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Falkland Islands was kept secret until the last minute for security reasons. It is not known how long Mrs Thatcher will stay in Port Stanley, the capital of the islands.

TELAM Reaction

PY090155 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0045 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (TELAM) -- When the injuries and affronts received in the wake of the British Government's usurpation of Argentine sovereignty over the southern archipelago -- an Argentine right nobody denies -- are still fresh in the eyes and hearts of Argentines and of Latin American sister republics, the visit that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher began to the capital of the Malvinas Islands today can only be regarded as a new aggression and an additional affront to our nation.

An entire people, an entire continent, united behind its claim for the definitive elimination of all forms of colonialism -- so anachronistic and offensive to our national and territorial identity as well -- will have to realize that armed aggression continues to be the main characteristic of the perfidious and inhuman Mrs Thatcher.

We Argentines were able to recognize our true friends and, above all, our true enemies. And we should not forget them now.

This action is a new insult to us and to those who died in the cruiser General Belgrano, in the Pucara and Mirage planes, in the Sobral and Rio Carcarana patrol boats, and to many others whose graves are in Puerto Argentino. The presence of this evil figure of world politics on Argentine soil can only provoke violence and condemnation, since it is a flagrant violation -- a new violation -- of Argentina's sovereign rights.

Hostilities between Argentina and the aggressor have not ended. If there is the intention to resume them, this will not be the result of any initiative taken by a traditionally peaceful country like Argentina, but of an arrogant and offensive attitude on the part of the British Government, which has not realized that patience has a limit.

No Immediate Official Reaction

PY090236 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0047 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (DYN) -- President Reynaldo Bignone was informed this evening of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's surprise arrival in the Malvinas Islands, but no immediate reactions were reported either at Government House or at the armed forces' high commands. Mrs Thatcher's trip was revealed by press reports datelined London only after the military plane which carried the prime minister and her entourage landed in Puerto Argentino after a 23-hour secret flight. Bignone was informed about the trip by his closest advisers, who read him concise dispatches reporting the visit.

Reliable sources indicated that President Bignone may have ordered the Foreign Ministry to inform Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari about the situation. This morning Aguirre Lanari traveled to Nicaragua in order to attend the meeting of nonaligned countries. The president's orders were transmitted to the Argentine Embassy in Caracas, where Aguirre Lanari will make a stopover and stay overnight. He will continue his trip to Managua early tomorrow morning. It could not be learned whether the president talked with Aguirre Lanari over the phone.

The same sources reported that Mrs Thatcher's unexpected presence in the souther archipelgo will cause the Argentine delegation to the Managua meeting to adopt a stronger position. The meeting is scheduled to begin on Monday and end on 14 January.

No other reactions were reported, since today is Saturday and most ministers and government officials are on vacation or have traveled to the countryside for the weekend. Military sources reported that the high commands were also informed of the situation, but indicated that no statements would be released immediately. Air force sources estimated that the British must have used at least three large tanker aircraft and other support planes in order to escort the prime minister's plane on the last leg of her flight over the South Atlantic.

Thatcher was accompanied by her husband, government officials and military staff. The marathon journey was begun with a VC-10 bomber specially modified for the trip. It landed on Ascension Island 10 hours after taking off from the Royal Air Force base located in Brize Norton, 64 km from London. On Ascension, the group transferred to a C-130 Hercules specially equipped for air refuelling. According to reports datelined London and regarded as "true" by the air force sources consulted, the Hercules was refuelled twice in the air during the 13 hours of the second and last stage of the flight. It is estimated that the first refuelling operation took place in the middle of the ocean, at the same latitude as the Brazilian city of Recife, while the second refuelling took place at the same latitude as Buenos Aires.

Even though the trip was apparently secret, it is believed that at least the British ambassadors to Uruguay and Brazil must have known about it, because the Hercules may have had to land at airports in any of the two countries had an emergency arisen.

Foreign Minister's Statement

PY090247 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jan 83

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Caracas, 8 Jan (TELAM) -- Argentina's foreign minister, Juan Aguirre Lanari, this evening strongly condemned the visit paid by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Malvinas Islands, a territory under Argentine sovereignty. This is the text of the statement released by the foreign minister:

"In reply to a question, I must make the following statement: If international press reports are confirmed, the British prime minister may have arrived in the Malvinas Islands. Such a step would be a new provocative and arrogant action. The prime minister's presence would again point up the only reason for the British possession of the islands: force.

"In view of that, the Argentine Republic, supported by its Latin American sister republics and by all peoples of the world who regard colonialism as a crime against mankind, will not yield in its struggle. Its struggle for sovereignty, recognized by the highest international forum, has not had, and will not have either pause or concessions. Its final goal -- the restoration of the Argentine Republic's effective possession of the territories which were seized by force -- will be the banner that will unite our people in our efforts to enforce justice."

AGUIRRE LANARI AT MANAGUA NONALIGNED MEETING

Departs for Nicaragua

PY082002 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (TELAM) -- Argentinian Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari left for Managua, Nicaragua this morning where he will attend the meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau. This meeting will be held from Monday to Friday of next week.

The foreign minister departed at 0900 from the military sector of the Jorge Newberry Metropolitan Airport aboard an Argentine Air Force plane which will make a stop in Caracas. Aguirre Lanari, who will spend the night in Caracas, will take advantage of his stay to meet with Venezuelan officials.

Members of the foreign ministry's entourage are: Gustavo Figueroa, the Foreign Ministry's cabinet chief; Oscar Fernandez Suarez, the chief of the Foreign Ministry Press Department; Juan Carlos Kreckler, the foreign minister's private secretary; and other Foreign Ministry officials.

Aguirre Lanari will stay in Managua for only 2 days since he has to be back in Argentina by Tuesday to accompany President Reynaldo Bignone, who will meet with Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo in Puerto Meira on 13 January.

Initial Comments on Arrival

PY100107 Paris AFP in Spanish 2021 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 9 Jan (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari stated in Managua that the visit paid by Margaret Thatcher to the Malvinas Islands this weekend is a provocation against the Argentine people. Aguirre Lanari arrived in Managua this morning to participate in the meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau, which will begin in Managua on Monday. Aguirre Lanari was met at Sandino Airport by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto. Agruirre Lanari's entourage was made up by approximately 20 Argentine Government officials, including Carlos Muniz, Argentine ambassador to the United Nations.

Foreign Minister Aguirre stated that the British presence on the archipelago is an offense to the Argentine's conscience and an aggression against Argentine sovereignty. The diplomat expressed his confidence that the Third World countries' solidarity with the Argentine cause regarding the Malvinas Islands will be revived and strengthened during the meeting in Managua.

As for British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas this weekend, Aguirre Lanari remarked that the trip is a real provocation against the government and people of Argentina, and an action which in no way benefits international harmony.

Foreign Minister Aguirre also stated that Argentina maintains its support of the Mexican-Venezuelan proposal to ease tensions and attain peace in Central America. He stated, moreover, that Argentina, which is indebted to Latin American solidarity, wants an objective peace for Central America.

Although the nonaligned meeting will continue until next Friday, the Argentine foreign minister will stay in Managua for only 2 days, because he will then travel to Brazil to participate, along with Gen Reynaldo Bignone, in a meeting with President Joao Figueiredo. Ambassador Carlos Muniz will lead the Argentine delegation after Aguirre Lanari departs Managua.

Endorsing Foreign Minister Aguirre's statements on Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas' Ambassador Muniz stated that the visit is a sign of arrogance, which hurts the sensibility of all the Argentine people.

Previews Meeting

PY100229 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0050 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Managua, Nicaragua, 9 Jan (DYN) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari stated today that he will expressly condemn Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas Islands during the speech he will deliver at the meeting of the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers.

Aguirre Lanari told DYN tonight that he has already contacted some of the other delegations, adding that following these contacts and the talks held by other Argentine officials, he was able to state that Thatcher's trip "has been very badly received by the other delegations."

The Argentine foreign minister will stay in Managua only until next Tuesday. For this reason, Aguirre Lanari stated that "I will probably address the conference tomorrow although it was originally planned to have the foreign ministers address the meeting later."

The minister expressed his confidence in the nonaligned countries' support for Argentina regarding the Malvinas issue, adding that "I believe we will be supported, but I prefer not to make any predictions" in this matter.

In brief statements to journalists at the Cesar Sandino International Airport in Mangua, Aguirre Lanari stated that Margaret Thatcher's trip to the Malvinas "is a provocation against Argentina and an affront to Latin America."

The minister stated that Great Britian has no right whatsoever over the islands, from the legal viewpoint, relying solely on the arrogant use of colonialist force. Aguirre Lanari also expressed his gratitude over the solidarity expressed by the Latin American and the nonaligned countries during the 74-day war in the South Atlantic over the archipelago.

Aguirre Lanari stated that the foreign ministers were scheduled to address the Managua meeting at the end of the discussions, noting that he will deliver his speech tomorrow because he will return to Buenos Aires early on Tuesday.

REPORTAGE ON EFFECTS OF UDP GOVERNMENT DISCORD

Discord Causes Concern

PY080113 Paris AFP in Spanish 0001 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 7 Jan (AFP) -- Leaders of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) stated here today that the public disagreements between Oscar Eid Franco, leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), and Interior Minister Mario Roncal Antezana are seriously jeopardizing the stability of the Bolivian UDP Government.

In this regard, Deputy Simon Reyes River, member of the Bolivian Communist Party (PCP) and high-ranking member of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), pointed out that the workers and people, who have placed their best hopes in the consolidation of the democratic regime, are concerned over this disagreement.

Deputy Antonio Aranibar Quiroga, one of the most outstanding members of the MIR, recalled that his party had decided to criticize the interior minister's indecision regarding paramilitary groups and drug traffickers and pointed out that this criticism was made in a respectful tone. Unfortunately, he stated, Comrade Eid Franco did not use the same tone, and he pointed out that the MIR will never resort to insults.

Roncal Antezana, for his part, pointed out that had the MIR criticized the ministers which that party has in the economic sector, the government balance would have been different.

Analysts believe that the tone of the polemic unleashed within the UDP has cooled down during the past few hours, and therefore it is possible there might be a solution to the conflict in the next few hours.

President Seeks Unity

PY081922 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1617 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Excerpts] La Paz, 8 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Popular and Democratic Unity (UDP), the leftist coalition presently in power in Bolivia, will seek within the next few hours ways to overcome current disagreements between the three parties that make up the coalition with the objective of strengthening the Bolivian democratic forces, political sources have disclosed. These disagreements have raised the political temperature in the last 48 hours. Furthermore, it is believed that these disagreements will probably deepen and that they will have unforeseeable effects.

However, leaders from the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) and the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), the third member of the UDP, have noted that these disagreements are unimportant.

A high-ranking MNRI leader noted that to safeguard the democratic process and in honor of the Bolivian people, the MNRI will make every effort to overcome the points of disagreement with which it is presently confronting the MIR.

For its part, the MIR National Executive Board said that the verbal attacks raised against one of its members were issued by low-level MIR (as received] members and that relations between high-ranking leaders of the government coalition are cordial.

Political sources noted that the UDP leadership will hold a meeting within a few hours to study and evaluate the 3-month period of coalition government and to study the proposals raised by the three government parties to amend any errors or deficiencies that may be present.

According to political sources, President Hernan Siles Zuazo himself has reportedly appealed to UDP parties to overcome their differences before this UDP leadership meeting.

Although the MIR seems inclined to insist on the need for an immediate reorganization of the cabinet in order to confront drug trafficking and paramilitary groups in a more effective manner, the MNRI reportedly insists on keeping the present cabinet until the end of the 100 days of emergency -- in February -- that was implemented by President Siles Zuazo in order to overcome national economic problems. Political sources noted that the meeting of the UDP leadership may start this evening or tomorrow at the latest and that its conclusions will be disclosed next week.

6 MIR Ministers Resign 8 January

PY091944 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1724 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 9 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- It was officially reported in La Paz today that the six Bolivian cabinet ministers who are members of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] have submitted their resignations. This event has caused the first ministerial crisis. The MIR -- one of the members of the government coalition -- is led by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, who called for a press conference today to report on the resignations submitted yesterday by the six ministers to President Siles Zuazo. The ministers' resignations were submitted at a time when the leftist government coalition Democratic and Popular Unity is undergoing a serious political crisis.

MIR Withdrawal Denied

PY081902 Paris AFP in Spanish 1734 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 8 Jan (AFP) -- Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora denied here today that the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) had decided to leave the government of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), in which it has six ministers. Paz Zamora's statement is a flat denial of a report disseminated by Radio Cristal of this city, which claimed that the MIR had deserted the UDP. The Bolivian vice president, in a chat with journalists, admitted, nevertheless, that his party continues to insist o the need to restructure the cabinet and to readjust the government front. He also recalled that since the MIR is a founder of the UDP, to which it is closely linked, there can be no reason for wanting to withdraw from that political coalition.

In the last few hours the MIR leadership, made up by Paz Zamora, Oscar Eid Franco and Antonio Aranibar Quiroga, attended a lengthy meeting with President Siles Zuazo. Also in attendance was Interior Minister Mario Roncal Antezana. Moreover, Interior Ministry sources have denied that President Siles Zuazo has reportedly decided to replace Interior Minister Roncal Antezana, whose resignation is demanded by the MIR. Meanwhile, the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), the third political force that makes up the UDP, is on alert in view of the situation.

PRESIDENT SUSPENDS BUILDING OF NUCLEAR PLANTS

PY071452 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Excerpt] After profound meditation and taking into account the crisis that the country is experiencing, President Figueiredo has decided to suspend the construction of the Iguape One and Two nuclear plants. The plants were to have been built on the seacoast south of Sao Paulo as part of the Brazil-FRG nuclear program. Nuclebras has already received the presidential directive that will remain in effect until our economy and the world crisis improve.

IMF REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTING LOAN ACCEPTED

PY082134 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Jan 83 pp 1, 13-15

[Excerpt] The abolition of the progressive tax on the remittance of profits and dividends made by branches of foreign enterprises in Brazil to their headquarters and the elimination of restrictions on the remittance of royalties and fees for technical assistance made by enterprises established in Brazil to firms abroad are some of the commitments undertaken by the government with the IMF.

These commitments are included in the letter of intent and the technical memorandum of understanding disclosed by the government yesterday. These commitments are aimed at encouraging foreign investments in Brazil as a means of balancing the country's foreign debt, one of the IMF's requirements for granting Brazil a $4.8 billion loan. The loan is to be disbursed over a 3-year period.

The government also agreed to cease withholding foreign currency on coffee and cocoa exports and to eliminate the tax on orange juice exports. Another requirement is that the balance of payment deficit in March not be higher than $1.5 billion (it amounted to $3.5 billion in December) and that the country have no deficit by December 1983.

Brazil's foreign debt during 1983 should not increase over $2 billion, discounting all payments for amortization and the Brazilian banks' short-term foreign debts. The cruzeiro will be devalued 3 percent above the inflation rate with respect to the dollar for the period 15 January-15 March and 12.7 percent above the inflation rate up to 15 January 1983.

GOVERNMENT STUDYING SALARY POLICY CHANGES

PY071407 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Test] Together with the release of the text of the letter of intent to the IMF, salary policy was discussed once again today. The planning minister himself, who has so many times denied that there will be any changes in that policy, said today that the economic authorities are now studying modifications that will be made in the policy of salary readjustments. Delfim Netto also stressed that productivity is much more important than working within a framework of biannual salary readjustments. According to Netto, there is still no definite plan regarding the modifications, but the government is studying the best one it has, which includes the idea of establishing a productivity index.

ENGESA DEVELOPING NEW ARMORED CARS, CANNONS

PY071455 Paris AFP in Spanish 1426 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, 6 Jan (AFP) -- The Brazilian enterprise Engesa [Specialized Engineers Inc] is developing a new version of the Jarara wheeled reconnaissance armored car, specialized sources reported here today. The new four-wheeled version will be able to operate in an ABC environment (Atomic, Bilogical and Chemical weapons) and will be equipped with a turret housing a missile launcher that will operate with French-made Milan antitank missiles, the sources explained.

Engesa builds the Cascavel antitank vehicle and the Urutu armored personnel carrier, which are being used by the Brazilian Army. The armies of more than 30 countries have also adopted the Jarara, the Cascavel and the Urutu.

The first combat performance of the Cascavel, a vehicle equipped with a turret housing a 90-mm cannon, came during the 1977 Libyan-Egyptian war.

According to specialized sources, the latest Engesa sales reported include 20 Cascavels sold to Cyprus and 200 Cascavels and Urutus sold to Colombia. In turn, DEFENSE ET ARMAMENTS magazine has announced that Engesa is developing a 105-mm cannon for armored vehicles and a 155-mm towed cannon.

According to statistical data published by the Rio de Janeiro newspaper JORNAL DO BRASIL, arms have replaced coffee and soybeans as Brazil's main export. In 1982, exports reportedly reached $1.5 billion, as compared to $1.2 billion in 1981.

EXOCETS MAY BE ACQUIRED FOR NEW CORVETTES

PY071602 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Jan 83 p 4

[Text] Brazil may acquire new French-made Exocet missiles of the type which were used with great success during the Malvinas war. Yesterday the navy disclosed that the missiles will probably be fitted in the four new corvettes which Brazil will start to build this year. For the first time, the navy, in a restricted internal publication, admitted the addition of the Exocet to the possible weapons to be fitted in the corvettes.

The Exocet is an air-to-sea missile fired at a very low level. This missile was used very successfully during the South Atlantic conflict in contrast to other weapons whose poor performances are being evaluated by military experts. The reequipment program provides for the building of four corvettes initially, but at least 12 corvettes are really needed.

Two Brazilian frigates are currently equipped with Exocet missiles.

Yesterday the navy announced the purchase of British-made Tigerfish torpedoes to equip its submarines. This type of torpedo is one of the most modern arms being produced in Europe. The acquisition of Tigerfish torpedoes was decided upon after the Admiralty examined all its characteristics and studied the potential of this weapons system to increase the Brazilian Navy's capability.

Another weapon which could be fitted in Brazilian warships is the anti-missile cannon designed by the Survey Institute of the Navy (Instituto de Pesquisas da Marinha -- Ipqm). If time allows, this antimissile cannon could also become part of the corvettes' weapons system.

ARMY COMMANDER DENIES CHARGES OF TORTURE

PA090234 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1704 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Bogota, 8 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Army commander Gen Bernardo Lema Henao has said that "the Colombian Armed Forces are a loyal and honest group in which torturers. and murderers have no place." He was replying to charges of torture made against military investigators by several persons arrested for their alleged involvement in the kidnapping and murder last year in Bogota of a fomrer government official, Gloria Lara de Echeverry.

When asked about the attorney general's report regarding the torture charges, the general insisted: "I am head of a loyal and honest army in which there is no place for torturers or murderers." The attorney general, based on medical exams, said that there are no signs of torture, but that there are signs of ill-treatment of several persons involved in the case.

In a letter sent to the attorney general on Thursday, Defense Minister Gen Fernando Landazabal said that the military will accept the attorney general's suggestion to prevent ill-treatment, but claimed that under certain circumstances difficult situations are created because of hostility on the part of those arrested. Such persons file torture charges to distort the investigations.

There are eight people under arrest for the kidnapping and murder of Gloria Lara. Among those arrested is a deputy for the Liberal Party, who has said that she was tortured into confessing her alleged involvement in the crime.

INRAVISION CANCELS NEWSCAST DUE TO DEBT

PA052105 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The Board of Directors of the National Institute of Radio and Television, Inravision, decided this afternoon to cancel the contract for the "Noticolor" newcast, which is broadcast at 2100 on the principal television network. The drastic decision was made after it was determined that the state's licensees owe more than 6 million pesos to Inravision. It was explained that the directors of the "Noticolor" newscast, journalists (Dario Silva Silva) and (Dario Restrepo Velez) can appeal the decision.

Commentary on Cancellation

PA052110 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 83

["Politics Without Fear" commentary by (Edgar Asuntuaga)]

[Text] The controversial television newscast "Noticolor," owned by (Dario Silva Silva) and (Dario Restrepo Velez), full-time pro-Turbay men -- at least during President Turbay's administration -- and afterwards recalcitrant critics of President Betancur's administration, will leave the air in approximately 2 weeks, according to the National Institute of Radio and Television, Inravision.

"Noticolor" threw what we might call a big rotten tomato at the government to end the contract. They delayed payments, piled up debts and now owe Inravision 6.7 million pesos. Inravision then decided to suspend "Noticolor's" contract. "Noticolor" now has the right to appeal, but it is Inravision which must hear the appeal. In other words, they are lost. In 2 weeks they might leave the air, according to (Alberto Quinones), chief of Inravision's Legal Section.

BELAUNDE TERRY REJECTS POSSIBILITY OF COUP

PA080318 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1246 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Madrid, 7 Jan (EFE) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry claimed in an interview published this week by the Spanish magazine TIEMPO that "a coup d'etat in my country is impossible." Belaunde affirmed that the armed forces' relations with him and the government are excellent. "I sail with the navy, fly with the air force and frequently visit garrisons and posts in remote regions."

"I can assure you that I have never felt the threat of a possible coup or the slightest hostility. This is a tale invented by certain opposition groups."

The Peruvian president denied that he will hold talks with the guerrillas because, he affirmed, you can only hold talks if both parties are willing to talk. "The Peruvian terrorists are groups of murderers who only want to kill. In most of the cases they kill humble policemen or peasants. They have no visible organization or leadership. Therefore, no dialogue or negotiation is possible," he added. Fernando Belaunde pointed out that these groups live on support received from abroad, and the armed forces never intervene to "control these people; the security forces are more than enough."

In relation to the opposition's criticism against Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa, the Peruvian president pointed out that "government officials are an easy target for envy or simply the desire for notoriety," and affirmed that he has full confidence in Dr Ulloa, "a well-known economist who is respected in other countries and in international organizations."

Regarding the suspension of his trip to the United States, Belaunde said the decision was due to "the U.S. Commerce Department's attitude toward the import of Peruvian textiles." Belaunde said it was these corrective measures and the tariffs of up to 45 percent that forced him to make his decision.

Regarding the results of the Spanish elections on 28 October 1982, which gave the victory to the Socialist Party, Belaunde affirmed that relations with Spain have always been excellent, and he expects that these "will not only remain the same, but will become even more fraternal."

"Spain was the exit door toward our continent; it must now become the entrance." [as received] The Peruvian president expressed his satisfaction regarding the victory of democracy. He said that "Spain is a country that we look up to. The fact that everything turned out so correct, acceptable and well-accepted is another example that Spain can be, once more, the country used as model by those that were born from it."

PRESIDENT ON NONALIGNED MEETING IN NICARAGUA

PY082022 Paris AFP in Spanish 1756 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 8 Jan (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde said today that Peru will continue to uphold its traditional mature and balanced position at the nonaligned countries meeting that will start in Managua on Monday. Belaunde also rejected the possibility of a summit meeting of presidents from OAS countries.

Belaunde, who traveled to Ica, 300 km south of Lima and thus resumed his working tours of Peruvian provinces, noted that Peru upholds a truly nonaligned position within the Nonaligned Movement because the nation does not and will not mortgage its future to anyone.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SHINING PATH ACTIVITIES

Attack in Vischongos

PY071745 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] According to unofficial sources, three persons died and four others were injured during a confrontation between police and terrorists. The sources stated that the clash occurred in Vischongos District where there is a [words indistinct] army outpost. This report has neither been confirmed nor denied by the Army High Command of the area of emergency [Ayachucho]. Upon stating to the press that no communique would be released in this regard, it was announced that all sources are closed to the foreign and domestic media as of yesterday.

3 Persons Executed in Chincay

PY071838 Paris AFP in Spanish 1407 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 7 Jan (AFP) -- According to unofficial sources, three members of a family were executed by a group of alleged terrorists in Chincay, Pasco Hill, located 317 km southeast of Lima. At the same time, three terrorists died and several police officers were seriously injured during an attack on a police outpost in Vischongos, Ayacucho, an area controlled by the army. The couple, Apolinario Escandon Villa and Olga Villanueva, both farmers, were riddled with bullets by a group of armed and hooded terrorists. The terrorists locked up four of the couple's children in a room and murdered the couple in the presence of the fifth son, who later managed to escape.

The terrorists then went to the nearby locality of San Juan de Tayacan, where they also riddled with bullets Julio Berrospi Villa, brother of Apolinario Escandon, for having bad habits.

At the same time, unconfirmed reports from Ayacucho state that three alleged terrorists died during an attack carried out early yesterday against the police outpost of Vischongos, 110 km northeast of Ayacucho. The sources stated that the attack was repelled by approximately 40 policemen, and that three of four of them were injured.

Corporal Murdered, Radio Station Threatened

PY080132 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 7 Jan (AFP) -- It was disclosed in this capital today that a corporal of the Peruvian Republican Guard died in the city of Ayacucho last night a few hours after having been attacked with firearms by guerrillas of the Shining Path Group. Corporal Estanislao Chavez, 32 years old, was hit by two bullets, one in his thorax and one in his right thigh, and died in a hospital in Ayacucho while being given medical assistance.

It was also learned that a radio station in this city was being threatened. It was compelled to read a message from the extremists which calls for a 24-hour strike in this capital tomorrow, Saturday.

Since 29 December, all of Ayacucho Department and two provinces of neighboring departments have been under military control and in a state of emergency. Today's incidents seem to be Shining Path's clearest actions in defiance of the armed forces since no deaths had been caused nor had any radio stations been so seriously threatened during the past 10 days.

HAVANA REPORTAGE ON SHINING PATH ACTIVITIES

On Situation in Ayacucho

PA080129 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru 2200 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry has said that he ordered the armed forces to enter Ayacucho Department in order to hold armed individuals in check [words indistinct]. Belaunde Terry has asserted that the terrorist attacks carried out during December and on 1 January do not pose any threat to the government, yet it has been reported that urgent meetings have been held at the highest levels. Belaunde Terry said that the armed forces are still transporting equipment and ammunition to the area, and have currently increased the size of the shipments.

News sources have said that several people died in clashes in Ayacucho during the curfew. It was also learned that a Shining Path group entered a radio station in the city of Arequipa and broadcast information saying that a new front had been opened. This front, Arequipa, is more than 1,000 km from Lima.

Other sources reported that two bombs exploded in the Ayacucho military garrison, causing slight damage. At the local market, Shining Path members distributed leaflets to the townspeople. Later, it was learned that 100 youths were arrested because they did not have any personal identification. Ayacucho Department, which is in the hands of the army, was left without long-distance communications because Shining Path members sabotaged [words indistinct].

In addition, it was learned that the new Peruvian cabinet, formed mainly by members of the Popular Action Party, has been sworn in.

On Murder Charges, Arrests

PA081824 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Many Peruvian lawmakers have demanded that the Human Rights Commission of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies investigate the mass killing of peasants carried out by government troops in the locality of Huancapi, in Ayacucho Department.

According to the daily MARKA, which is published in Lima, counterinsurgency elements of the Peruvian police murdered eight defenseless Huancapi peasants on 26 December. The newspaper added that the victims were machinegunned while taking part in a town meeting but that the government reported that they died in a clash between government forces and commandos of Shining Path, the clandestine armed group.

Deputies representing the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, the official National Integration Party and other Peruvian political organizations underscored that respect for human rights take precedence over any state of emergency and that abuses under the pretext of fighting terrorism cannot be tolerated.

A Shining Path manifesto distributed in Ayacucho blames the government for the peasant massacre in Huancapi and reiterates that the group will continue its armed struggle.

Other reports indicate that at least 200 people have been arrested in the last few hours in Ayacucho as part of the so-called counterinsurgency operation being conducted there by over 5,000 Peruvian soldiers.

SEPULVEDA AMOR LEAVES FOR ISLA CONTADORA MEETING

FL080020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2303 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today departed for Panama to participate in a meeting with the foreign ministers of Colombia, Venezuela and Panama regarding the Central American situation. The meeting is slated to be held 8 and 9 January. The Secretariat of Foreign Relations announced that the meeting will be held on Isla Contadora and that possibly during this meeting a joint plan of action may be established regarding the prevailing situation in the Central American region.

The secretariat said the meeting will be attended by Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III, Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Llorada Caicedo and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Zambrano.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSION COMMENTS ON POLICY

FL072335 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2023 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, [day not given] Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Chamber of Deputies' Foreign Relations Commission today reiterated that Mexico's foreign policy will not change with the change of administrations, on the contrary, it will be reaffirmed and consolidated.

The president of the 52d Legislature's Foreign Relations Commission, Deputy Luis Denton Rodriguez, asserted that Mexico's relations with Honduras and Nicaragua, and the visit to Panama, has somehow been interpreted as a response to [the] Pro-Peace [and Democracy Forum] activities in the international sphere. Denton Rodriguez said Mexico respects the territorial integrity, sovereignty and self-determination process taking place in Central America. The president of the lower house commission reiterated that Mexico has been a useful mediator in international conflicts because of the moral force of its history. However, he said, Mexico will never allow itself to put unilateral or conflictive pressures against countries in conflict. On the contrary, its position will always be the promotion of a settlement through peaceful means.

We are certain that reason will prevail, and now that Mexico and Nicaragua are members of the UN Security Council, these proposals will be widely heard, he added.

SALVADORAN EMBASSY OCCUPIED TO PROTEST ARRESTS

PA082207 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] The Salvadoran Embassy in Mexico was peacefully occupied for several hours today by a group of people who were protesting the arrest of Salvadorans exiled in Mexico who had traveled to El Salvador in December.

The occupiers demanded the release of two Salvadoran students who live in Mexico and who were arrested in El Salvador when they were visiting their relatives. This public condemnation of their arrest coincides with protests against the illegal detention of several people in El Salvador who were preparing for the visit of U.S. congressmen to that country.

After staying some hours in the Salvadoran Embassy, the occupiers decided to leave after obtaining guarantees that the cases will be investigated.

EEC PRESIDENT PLEDGES INCREASED INVESTMENTS

FL080120 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1845 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The EEC will increase its investments in Mexico, not only because of its mineral wealth, but also because if Mexico fails we will all be in danger, EEC President Gaston Thorn said. Thorn was interviewed today after he held talks with President Miguel de la Madrid. The two reviewed the bilateral cooperation agreement between Mexico and the EEC.

He said that in his meeting with the president the two agreed on their general analysis of the political and economic problems of the world and the need to intensify efforts to get the best results from the fight against the crisis. The president of the EEC said that Mexico has become a giant and has a great potential market. Only a fool with no foresight would overlook Mexico, Thorn told reporters when he announced that the efforts to increase European investments in Mexico would be intensified.

Elsewhere, he stressed the EEC's interest in developing relations with Latin America, particularly with Central America and the Caribbean where the EEC financial support effort amounts to $120 million, assistance granted without the political discriminations seen in aid given by some superpowers.

Talks with Foreign Secretary

FL070310 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2310 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico today asked the EEC to permit unrestricted access for Latin American goods; financing for equipment and technology; and fair treatment of debt problems.

During a banquet held for Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC Executive Commission, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said that Mexico has been affected by the protectionist atmosphere in world markets. He added: We demand cooperation but we are also determined to do our part in adjustment efforts. He said that President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado's administration had implemented drastic measures for internal economic reorganization in order to cut the government's fiscal deficit in half. He said that Mexicans trust that the international community will understand and appreciate the magnitude of the efforts announced and hope that it will spare no sympathy and support for Mexico. We are convinced that coercion and economic sanctions are instruments that should be banished from international relations and that the way to solve problems is through peaceful negotiation, he added.

Sepulveda Amor asked Gaston Thorn, who is on an official 36-hour visit to Mexico, that European private agencies investing in Latin America respect and cooperate with the development objectives of each receiving country. He said that priority should be given to technical cooperation which would contribute to the progressive modernization of Latin American economies. He said that regular and opportune consultations between Europe and Latin America would be the way to take greater advantage of this potential for agreement and cooperation.

He regretted that Mexico and Europe had not been able to implement the Mexican Exports Community Promotion Program put together at the end of 1979 and had also been unable to begin programs of industrial promotion, joint investments and transfer of technology. He said: The Fourth Mexico-EEC Joint Commission Meeting will be held in 1983; therefore let us not miss this opportunity to activate these agreements and explore new possibilities.

Sepulveda Amor toasted the continued development of cooperative relations between the EEC and Mexico in a context of renewed contacts with that region and of international relations which would bring the two regions closer together under the ideals of peace, cooperation and friendship.

IMCE REPORTS 11-MONTH FOREIGN TRADE SURPLUS

FL081609 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1650 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Foreign Trade Institute [IMCE] has reported that during January-November 1982 there was a $5,366,000,000 surplus in the country's foreign trade, compared to the same period in 1981. According to primary indicators, IMCE adds, the country recorded a favorable balance of trade amounting to more than $6 billion as a result of the impact of the devaluations, the program of federal economic adjustment and measures adopted since 1981 aimed at limiting exports.

In contrast to the $3,327,000,000 deficit recorded until November 1981, this represents a correction of $8,693,000,000, that is, the equivalent of a 261.3 percent improvement.

IMCE notes that the foreign currency generated by exports during the first 11 months of 1982 amounted to $18,975,000,000, which represents an increase of $1,106,000,000 over the same period in 1981, or a 6.2 percent increase. It added that the total amount of sales derived from the oil industry increased by $1,493,000,000, that is, 11.1 percent between the periods being compared, and represented 78.9 percent of the total value of the exports.

However, IMCE noted that non-oil industry exports decreased by $387 million, from $4,398,000,000 to $4,011,000,000 during the same period in 1982.

With regard to imports, IMCE noted they were reduced by $7,587,000,000, that is 35.8 percent.

PEMEX TO COOPERATE WITH BRIBE INVESTIGATION

PA080448 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Pemex will cooperate fully with investigations into alleged bribes offered Pemex officials by a U.S. company. A U.S. news agency today reported that (Allied Process Products Overseas, Incorporated) will plead guilty to having paid $342,000 to (Guillermo Cervera Flores), administrative secretary of the Pemex Purchasing Department, in exchange for contracts for the supply of $5 million worth of equipment.

According to the initial investigations ordered by the Pemex director, the alleged receiver of the bribe has never held that post. Pemex did state that (Cervera Flores) was adviser to the Purchasing Department until November 1981 and currently works as a technical assistant in the Import Superintendency.

The Attorney General's Office has reported that the investigations of (Jesus Chavarria) and (Ignacio Munoz), former Pemex officials accused of receiving bribes, are following their legal course.

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ENDS; URGE DIALOGUE

PA091953 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1805 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Report by (Julio Vilas)]

[Text] Approximately 20 minutes ago the foreign ministers of Panama, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela ended their meeting at the Holiday Inn in Tocumen. They discussed and agreed on the following:

The foreign ministers discussed various matters of regional interest and they agreed on the need to increase the dialogue among Latin American countries as an effective way of confronting the political, economic and social problems that threaten peace in the area.

Furthermore, they also said that they are concerned about direct or indirect foreign intervention in the conflicts of Latin America and the Caribbean but that they do not consider these conflicts part of the East-West confrontation. The ministers also expressed the need to eliminate the external factors which make the conflicts worse.

The foreign minister urgently called on all countries of Central America to use dialogue and negotiation to reduce tensions and to establish the bases for a permanent climate of peaceful coexistence and mutual respect.

Unofficially it was said that a hemispheric foreign ministers meeting may possibly be held in the near future in Panama City.

President Terms Meeting 'Important'

PA091458 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] The foreign ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama today held a work session with President Ricardo de la Espriella to review the regional problems, particularly the peace proposals for Central America. A few minutes before the meeting opened, Panamian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado said that he hoped the meeting would strengthen the dialogue among countries with common interests.

The Contadora meeting has brought together four countries that are concerned over other political initiatives adopted in the area, such as the Forum for Peace and Democracy created in October in San Jose, Costa Rica, after being proposed by the United States. Nicaragua was excluded from that event.

The Panamanian foreign minister reiterated Panama's position that solutions for Central America's problems should originate in the countries involved.

After the meeting, President de la Espriella spoke with the press:

[Begin recording] [De la Espriella] We had a very interesting meeting at which we exchanged views, opinions and various considerations on a broad range of topics concerning our countries' economic, political and social problems. We also discussed Central America's problems and the issues currently affecting the Bolivarian countries. THe foreign ministers are now about to begin a session of hard work. Before reaching conclusions and making proposals, one must first find out if those involved are interested in listening to proposals. One thing is very clear: Our countries' awareness of the current problem and of its possible consequences for the entire region.

[Question] In regard to the nonaligned countries, has some agreement been reached on some document to be issued jointly by the countries currently meeting here?

[Answer] We more or less share common views. Colombia and Venezuela will receive our support in their bid to join the movement of nonaligend countries. We think that they deserve to join it. They are Bolivarian countries and we agree with their views on a large number of political issues so they have our full support.

[Question] Mr President, as a result of this meeting, could a larger conference be held soon?

[Answer] Yes, of course. This is currently being discussed. This is one of the things that you will learn tomorrow, should it be decided that other countries should also participate. As I said earlier, we must be considerate enough to notify those countries of the conclusions reached here. These conclusions must first be discussed with the possible participants at that meeting.

[Question] Mr President, how would you describe this meeting?

[Answer] I would describe it as very important. It seems to me that it is a very important part of the effort to find solutions to the problems currently affecting our area and our entire hemisphere. [end recoridng]

MINISTER SOLIS EXPLAINS 1983 INVESTMENT BUDGET

PA082313 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jan 83

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The investment budget of the public sector for 1983 will total 535.5 million balboas. This was disclosed by Planning and Economic Policy Minister Menalco Solis in a news conference today. Of this amount, 152.6 million balboas in investments will be channeled by the central government and 382.9 million balboas will be channeled by the decentralized institutions.

The energy sector will receive the biggest investment, with 107.7 million balboas to promote the La Fortuna project. The agricultural sector follows with 94.7 million balboas, housing with 89.6 million balboas and transportation with 76.7 million balboas.

Minister Solis said that the government expects 1,989,000,000 balboas in revenues and will limit expenditures to 1,846,000,000 balboas which would give a current savings of 142.4 million balboas. However, since the investments, the amortization and the current deficit must be added, there will be a financing deficit of 550 million balboas. In order to cover this, the state must obtain loans from international organizations and other sources. This will be feasible since Panama is one of the few countries that can still obtain credits.

The minister also explained that the public debt service this year will total 723 million balboas.

Minister Menalco Solis and Deputy Minister Hector Alexander also said that the new budget includes the wage increases for teachers, doctors, nurses and others; the increase in pensions; and the wage increase for government workers who earn less than 300 balboas a month. They also indicated that strict budget controls are being established this year to prevent expenditures from surpassing the established figures. Expenses that are not authorized in the investment budget will not be approved by the state, the planning ministry officials stressed.

COSTA RICA

EDEN PASTORA BODYGUARD KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

PA081823 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1637 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] San Jose, 8 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Pedro Pablo Meneses Cartin, a bodyguard of Eden Pastora ("Commander Cero" of Nicaragua) lost his life in an automobile accident some 6 km east of the downtown sector of this capital.

Meneses was accompanied by five other Pastora bodyguards, all of whom were injured. However, their lives are not in danger, according to statements this morning by officials at the hospital where they are being treated. The injured are: Jose Luis Felipe Martinez, Roberto Flores Meneira, Jose Manuel Olivar Zamora, Frank Sequeira and Rodolfo Borges Larios, all the Nicaraguans, as was Meneses Cartin, the deceased.

Eden Pastora, who was travelling in another vehicle in front of the automobile involved, was not injured. Persons close to the Nicaraguan commander have ruled out the possibility of sabotage in the incident and said that it was just an unfortunate accident.

EL SALVADOR

ANTI-GARCIA CRISIS UNFOLDS IN CABANAS DEPARTMENT

Colonel Ochoa Heads Revolt

PY071547 Paris AFP in Spanish 1525 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 7 Jan (AFP) -- The military garrison of Sensuntepeque in the northern department of Cabanas, which is headed by Lt Col Sigfrido Ochoa, revolted last night demanding the resignation of Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia. This report was made by Colonel Ochoa himself.

Ochoa stated that although the radio and telephone communications between his garrison and the high commands of the capital city have interrupted, his units have all of Cabanas Department under control. The guerrillas have been very active in Cabanas Department, which is located northeast of San Salvador. The officer stated, however, that the revolt is not a coup but a form of protest against the present defense minister. General Ochoa was critical of the defense minister for his pretending to be the strongest man within the Salvadoran Army. El Salvador has been engaged in a civil war for the past 3 years. This is the worst crisis the Salvadoran Armed Forces have experienced since the coup d'etat that brought to power the present regime in 1979.

Ochoa noted that he is determined to uphold his position until Defense Minister Garcia resigns. However, so far the minister has not issued any statement in this regard. All Salvadoran national sectors are closely following with great expectations the outcome of this incident which may well be the beginning of a coup d'etat.

Garcia Decisions Opposed

PA071728 Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Jan (AFP) -- Salvadoran opposition sources have told AFP that the removal of Col Sigifredo Ochoa, military commander in Cabanas Department, north of San Salvador, "is another attempt by Defense Minister Gen Guillermo Garcia to isolate the extreme rightwing within the armed forces."

Colonel Ochoa "is one of the men who are closest to Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson," incumbent president of the Constituent Assembly and leader of the ultrarightist Nationalist Republican Alliance.

In November, a "clandestine" document that was attributed to Salvadoran extreme rightist sectors strongly criticized General Garcia and characterized Ochoa as the only military man "capable of stopping the guerrillas."

The military order transferring Ochoa to Uruguay as military attache at the Salvadoran Embassy was regarded by him as "diplomatic exile."

Colonel Ochoa rejected the order and rebelled, but does not intend to stage a coup d'etat, according to reports from Cabanas.

The rebellious military men are demanding the removal of Garcia, who, through his actions, "has betrayed the armed forces' proclamation of 15 October" (date of the coup d'etat that placed the current government in power in 1979), according to a report by the clandestine Radio Venceremos, which quoted military circles in Cabanas.

The rebellious military men are also demanding "the immediate reinstatement of Colonel Ochoa."

This officer is one of the "most prestigious in the armed forces," but the Salvadoran guerrillas link him to "extreme rightwing sectors in the regime," the Radio Venceremos announcer said.

"Ochoa is one of the main heads of the death squadrons and is responsible for the repression in Cabanas Department and has shown a great ambition for power from the outset of his career," the announcer said.

There is calm in San Salvador, but some troop movements were observed in the city last night.

This morning it was virtually impossible to establish telephone communications with Sensuntepeque, capital of the department, and nothing was known about the situation there.

According to Radio Venceremos, no military unit has taken a stand against Ochoa's uprising, while there is suspense within the army. The high command has issued no statement in regard to Ochoa's decision.

Ochoa 7 Jan Interview

PA071620 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSFL in Spanish 0400 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] This is an important last-minute report for our listeners in El Salvador and Central America, in the voice of Lt Col Sigfrido Ochoa Perez, the departmental commander in Cabanas and commander of Military Detachment No 2 headquartered in Sensuntepeque:

[Begin relay] [unidentified speaker] Good evening, Colonel, go ahead with your report:

[Ochoa Perez] Good evening. I am calling you in connection with the following: We have received Order No 1 of this year from the Defense Ministry, according to which I have been transferred to serve as military attache to Uruguay. This has sponsored the rebellion of the infantry battalion in Cabanas and of all of the department's military and paramilitary units. They feel that this transfer, rather than a military action, is a purely political and personal action on the part of Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, who, by the way, we feel has betrayed, through this decision, the armed forces proclamation. This is the feeling of this military unit's commanders and officers.

We feel that General Garcia has betrayed it for a number of reasons. In the first place, we have noticed that he feels that he is the strong man of this republic, who does and undoes as he pleases. The officers here say that if the commanders and other officers are being punished for working, for maintaining a department in peace, for fighting subversion and for being united with the people, then they feel that the time has come for them to express their opinion, in the sense that they feel that they have been betrayed by the minister through my transfer and that they deserve at least an explanation, since the only transfer at the commanders level is my own.

The truth is that we feel that the defense minister has betrayed the armed forces proclamation, because although there is talk of pluralism and democracy, he has practically become a behind-the-scene dictator. We have isolated Cabanas Department. We will permit neither the arrival nor departure of any vehicles or person in or from the department. Cabanas Department has come under military rule, under my control. It is my opinion that as a soldier I can be transferred, but now in such an unexpected manner, after I talked to him and to the chief of the General Staff about 3 days ago, and was told by them that I would not be transferred, because we have work to do here and because we have a commitment to the people. We have truly made an experiment with the people here and I think that if doing good deserves punishment, then we are indeed adrift. We will remain in a state of rebellion until the defense minister is either dismissed or resigns. Any other questions?

[Question] Since you are directing the operation to isolate Cabanas Department, what measures have you taken in terms with the act of rebellion that you have declared?

[Answer] Our rebellion is intended almost exclusively to repudiate the defense minister. We support a democratic system. We support ourselves and, in fact, request support from all of the country's political factions. As good Salvadorans, we must support each other. We have not staged this movement in order to escalate to better positions. This is a zone of conflict, where, thanks to the actions carried out by the armed forces and to the help provided by the people, we have been able to clean up the department. The people have been relocated and there are a number of important programs on behalf of the people. What the officers see, therefore, is the uncertainty that derives from the whims of a man who, disregarding military hierarchy and showing disrespect for military regulations, does as he pleases.

The measures we have taken to isolate the department, therefore, include the seizure and control of roads and other strategic points throughout the department. We have also mobilized the civilian population and we are willing to pull through, regardless of the cost, without involving other organizations. We expect the rest of the armed forces -- the companeros, those of us who are truly fighting to pull the country out of its currently chaotic situation -- to support us, but not to escalate to better positions, since we are fine here. In the past, no one wanted to come to Sensuntepeque. Now that the department is quiet, the minister has arbitrarily decided to transfer me. I had decided to accept the transfer and was planning to leave, but my officers told me not to leave, saying that we should stay here.

[Question] What would be needed to put an end to this military action, which has made the country's political and military situation quite difficult in the last few hours?

[Answer] We had been putting up with the defense minister's whims for too long. We want him dismissed. The truth is that he thinks he is irreplaceable and we don't think anyone is irreplaceable. There are better elements than him within the armed forces, who could take over the defense sphere. Unfortunately, serious commitments have been made to other government officials, but at this point we feel that the people must support us.

The minister says one thing and then does another. We are waiting for the armed forces high command to contact us. They should not act capriciously, because just as we have fought subversion we are willing to fight the minister to the final consequences.

[Question] Have you already been in contact with the high command?

[Answer] Yes, I have already told them that we have decided to... [interrupted by announcer]

[Question] Excuse me, I mean prior to making this decision.
[Answer] I beg your pardon?

[Question] My question is: Did you contact the high command before deciding to stage this rebellion?

[Answer] The decision was made here in the detachment following General Order No 1 of 1983. Once we, the officers, made this decision and once we had received the support of the departmental council of authorities, which will release a manifesto in support of our movement -- a movement that is strictly in support of our demand that we should not be removed, since if I am removed today, this will create uncertainty among the lower ranks -- the other officers and I myself decided to notify our immediate chief, the chief of the General Staff. Since he has been notified, I suppose that both the minister and the high command have also been notified.

[Question] Finally, Lieutenant Colonel Ochoa Perez, do you care to make a final appeal, in view of the current circumstances?

[Answer] Sure, What we wish to say is that the civilian population can feel at ease. Our movement is not political. It is exclusively military and it is intended to reject the minister. I think that he should make room for new elements. We think that instead of acting favorably toward us, he has harmed us.

We think that all of these developments -- the ministers' resignations and all of that -- are his work. We criticize the fact that the independent ministers, as they have styled themselves -- the finance minister, the interior minister and the defense minister -- did not resign also. The truth is that I think he has deceived us and has betrayed the armed forces proclamation, for which we are fighting. We think that the people should remain attentive to our current situation. If we have to die in our positions, we shall die. We can no longer put up with the arbitrary actions of this one man. We urge all armed forces' elements to support us in this movement. This movement is definitely not a coup. We want the democratic process to continue. We don't want the process to be hindered by one man.

[Question] Could you describe for us the current situation there in Sensuntepeque?

[Answer] The situation is calm. The council of authorities is currently meeting to release a manifesto. We urge the national and international press representatives to visit us, so that they can witness the way in which the people support our movement.

Unit Issues Communique

PA071755 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1605 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Communique issued by Military Detachment No 2, at Sensuntepeque, capital of Cabanas Department, El Salvador on 6 January; read by correspondent Alberto Barrera]

[Text] [Words indistinct], the officers, troops, administrative personnel and members of the military band and of Military Detachment No 2 salute the heroic Salvadoran people and their glorious armed forces.

We state that, whereas: Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, the current defense minister, has betrayed the armed forces' proclamation of 15 October 1979 by allowing corrupt personal, political and administrative decisions within the armed forces, such as the arbitrary transfer of Lt Col Sifigredo Ochoa Perez, commander of this detachment, who has been one of the few successful officers in eradicating and controlling subversion in Cabanas Department, to the Republic of Uruguay;

Because of the foregoing, the Minister has demonstrated that he prefers to keep corrupt people in their posts, rather than those who have truly worked and fought effectively against the guerrillas. Therefore, [words indistinct] it is important:

1. To demand the dismissal of the minister of defense and public security;

2. To explain to the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces that, in that capacity, he should be the one to make the decisions, through the armed forces chief of staff;

3. To ask the honorable National Constituent Assembly to accept our request, to benefit both the country and the armed institution;

4. To appeal for the moral support of our fellow members of the armed forces to gain our objective; and

5. To state that this is not a political movement or a coup d'etat, but an eminently institutional act.

Long live the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Ochoa Claims Wide Support

PA081754 Paris AFP in Spanish 1740 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jan (AFP) -- The Salvadoran military crisis worsened today with Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia's total rejection of the demands made by Col Sigfredo Ochoa, who headed a revolt by Military Detachment No 2, based in Sensuntepeque, Cabanas Department, 80 km northeast of the capital. Colonel Ochoa, who disclosed Garcia's position, told AFP that he has the support of the Salvadoran Air Force and other elite battalions in the country. He theatened to "increase pressure on the minister." However, it has not been possible to confirm this claim of support with other sources.

Ochoa said that at no time were there preliminary discussions with the other unit commanders about his decision to rebel against Garcia. "Everything happened suddenly, when the officers of the detachment were at a meeting and learned of the order to transfer me to Uruguay as a military attache," he said.

"Everyone was surprised by the fact that I was the only commander to be transferred," Ochoa said. He insisted that "it is not a case of a military coup or a plot against state instititutions; it is simply a matter of taking advantage of the present circumstances and we will remain firm to the end, because I believe that justice is on our side." Colonel Ochoa said that he has real support form the Salvadoran Air Force [FAS], "since FAS Commander Colonel Bustillo and all his officers are extending not only moral support, but may also give support of another kind."

Regarding the visit made to him yesterday by Col Adolfo Blandon, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, the country's main military corps that is based in San Salvador, Ochoa said that the officer had offered to serve as mediator.

"I formally handed him my proposition to be taken to the high command and this morning Blandon telephoned me a message from General Garcia which was a total rejection of my demands."

"The minister does not agree. He will not leave. He remains arrogant," the colonel said. Ochoa reiterated that he is also maintaining his position and even "increasing our pressure" by asking Colonel Blandon himself to state his position, because "he is also aware of the real situation."

Ochoa said that a speedy solution should be achieved, but that "the man who is hindering everything is the defense minister, and is seeking support from other governments in the area." Ochoa, who is considered a "nationalist," said that "Garcia has no reason to be leaning on other governments; we consider that a betrayal of the national sovereignty." The rebel military officer said that his position is one of "respect and subordination" toward President Alvaro Magana as commander in chief of the armed forces, and of support for the "national unity government."

Accused by various sectors of belonging to the extreme rightwing that is represented in the political arena by retired Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, the leader of Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance], Ochoa said that he "respects the democratic process." He denied that he is affiliated with any political party, and said that his relationship with D'Aubuisson "is solely one of friendship, but that they have (?different ideologies)."

Ochoa said that the president should rule the armed forces through the general staff, but not in the way that this is currently being done. He noted the need for Magana "to begin to wear the pants so as not to be dominated by a minister."

Another demonstration in support of Ochoa took place this morning in Sensuntepeque. The rebel officer said that "all the political parties represented in the department, as well as organizations of peasants, workers, students and the services participated in that demonstration," extending full support for what they consider "just." The officer said that the struggle is not against the state or against government institutions, but simply "an effort to remove General Garcia, who is behaving as if he were omnipotent," from power.

"Garcia has betrayed the armed forces proclamation," Ochoa added. He again appealed to the people and other commanders to support him.

He said that "unfortunately, no one is brave enough to speak out against the minister." At the same time, Ochoa reiterated the call for a rebellion, stating that Garcia "is only supported by a group of his cronies."

Ochoa reiterated that General Garcia "has become corrupt. There are a number of areas over which he has sole control, since he believes himself to be all-powerful," and manipulates things according to his whim, not only within the armed forces, but also within the government. In Ochoa's opinion, the armed forces general staff should be in charge, and should even be authorized to appoint a civilian to the Defense Ministry, "because it is a completely political rather than a military post."

Ochoa Supports President Magana

PA081909 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1807 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] At a meeting today with the residents of Sensuntepeque and members of the departmental civilian defense, Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez publicly urged President Alvaro Magana to remain in his place without letting Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia boss him around.

Colonel Ochoa Perez said: I would like to tell President Magana that we are still his soldiers and subordinates, that we obey his mandate and respect his national unity government. However, Colonel Ochoa Perez also said that President Magana should wear the pants and should not let the defence minister, who is the real power behind the throne, boss him around.

In Sensuntepeque this morning, some 5,000 people demonstrated in support of 40-year-old Colonel Ochoa Perez. The demonstrators included tens of people who had come from Cinquera, Jutiapa, Villa Dolores, San Isidro and the various departmental cantons, as well as residents of Sensuntepeque -- all of whom carried palcards insisting that Colonel Ochoa Perez continue in his post as departmental commander in Cabanas until the end.

Ochoa, meanwhile, insists that he already has the support of the air force and of the chiefs of several other garrisons, the names of which he is not going to reveal until it has been decided that General Garcia must indeed leave the Defense Ministry.

This morning a group of journalists approached General Garcia, who made a very short statement on the case of Colonel Ochoa Perez. General Garcia said briefly: Colonel Ochoa Perez has adopted the wrong position; he has forgotten that he is a military man. The general said that every military man must be guided by the principles of obedience and discipline, adding that in order to command well, one must first learn to obey well. General Garcia provided no further details about what is currently regarded an obvious internal crisis in Dr Magana's government. Magana has not commented on the problem.

Garcia Withholds Comment

PA081352 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1317 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] The Defense Ministry is saying nothing about the Colonel Ochoa case. It has been impossible to secure any information on the decisions of the armed forces high command or on the position of Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, although almost 48 hours have passed since Colonel Ochoa, his officers and troops decided not to obey the order sending the colonel to Uruguay.

The Armed Forces Press Committee is not answering journalists' question. Its only comment is: It is possible that a communique may be issued later but for the time being we have nothing new to report and the chiefs are not here.

In Sensuntepeque, the situation is the complete opposite. Colonel Ochoa, his officers and the committee of authorities are available to local and foreign journalists.

Magana Meeting With Military Chiefs

PA080630 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0606 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 8 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Alvaro Magana met last night with the principal Salvadoran military chiefs to analyze how to put down the rebellion of a key army commander who is demanding the resignation of the defense minister. A military spokesman said that the president also called the conference to demonstrate to the rebel officer, Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, who is disturbed at having been relieved of his command, that he has the support only of his own men in Cabana Department.

All the battalion commanders except Colonel Ochoa met behind closed doors with the president and Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia, as well as the national chiefs of the navy, air force and police, said the spokesman, who did not give details of the discussions.

Colonel Ochoa has told reporters that he would not obey the defense minister, and that his troops controlled the whole of Cabanas Department, which extends from central El Salvador to the border with Honduras. The colonel, who has personally led his men in some of the most intense fighting against the guerrillas, described his new appointment as one of the many arbitrary orders issued by General Garcia based on political and not military reasons. He added that he had the complete support of other battalions, but denied that his uprising was paving the way for the fall of the government supported by the United States. He said that "this is not a political movement or a coup d'etat."

Military sources have said that U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton held an urgent meeting with the defense minister on the situation. Meanwhile, in a telephone interview, Colonel Ochoa told REUTERS that he had not reached an agreement with the delegation of high-ranking military officers who met with him in Sensuntepeque yesterday.

Further Ochoa Interview

PA072322 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 2145 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Report on interview with Salvadoran Army Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, military commander of Cabanas Department, by an unidentified journalist in Sensuntepeque, Cabanas Department, on 7 January; distributed by the Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Excerpt] On arriving in this department this morning we spoke with Col Sigfredo Ochoa. Asked what he thought about his transfer to Uruguay, he said: [Begin recording] [Ochoa] All transfers in the armed forces [words indistinct]. We are no robots. We are humans. [Passage indistinct]

[Question] Do you think there is support from other units?

[Answer] Yes, I have (?spoken) with some officers. In no way is this a coup d'etat. We want to be heard, and we want the real personality of the minister to be known. He is not what he appears to be. He is a wolf in sheep's clothing. We are tired of [words indistinct] demagoguery.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I hope not. We are in a process of change [words indistinct]. We are fighting subverion [words indistinct]. (?I don't want) the armed forces unity to be broken.

[Question] Do you think that force can be used to [words indistinct]

[Answer] No, I don't think force will be used. There must be talk [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Yes, last night I spoke with the chief of the General Staff. I notified him of the decision we had made. Since then, we have not had another contact. We know that in view of the minister's arrogant personality, there will be no contact. The truth is that we have made a decision [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] No, we have spoken with some companeros in other garrisons and [words indistinct] our position. This is not a coup d'etat. It is simply a rebellion against General Garcia [words indistinct]. He does what he pleases [words indistinct].

If one is not with him [words indistinct]. It is not the place where I should be.[words indistinct] I am a soldier and as such I should... [changes thought] -- I have never [words indistinct] for them to send me into exile.

[Question] [Words indistinct] been able to develop such a serious conflict with the general for him to decide to send you into exile?

[Answer] Yes, I believe that he was upset because I involuntarily achieved a certain notoriety in the national and international media, but I believe that this is part of the political war that we are waging. We have to let the people know what we are doing, and that we are doing this not for any individual but for the armed institution. We believe that the war against subversion should not be waged exclusively with weapons, but that we should also maintain contact with the people, and wage a political war, an economic war and a social war.

[Question] Has he directly expressed displeasure over your attitude toward the media?

[Answer] He has not done so directly, but he has already called one newspaper and said that [words indistinct]. This has always bothered him. [Words indistinct] above all the parties. We do not have any specific party. We support all the parties; we support democracy; we believe that the armed forces are the [words indistinct] of democracy, and that we should be subordinate to the power [words indistinct] a constituent assembly, [words indistinct] does not appear as the strong man [words indistinct] and telling the truth bothers him. Therefore, to be on a good footing with him one has to be totally subordinated, and soon we would be doing exactly what was done in Nazi Germany, and what was done by Idi Amin. But we are not [words indistinct]. We are not in Africa and we are not in Germany.

[Question] Well, how can we find a solution? Do you believe that if the order from General Garcia is revoked the problem might be solved?

[Answer] I believe that could be a solution.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] By a General Staff. A General Staff is the one that directs the armed institution. The Defense Ministry is a political position, mainly an institutional position. I believe that our authorities have misunderstood this. The chief of the General Staff is the one that should manage the [word indistinct], personnel transfers and all of those things. We believe that as a professional institution they should be sure. For example, if I am told you will be going to such and such a place for 2 years, then [words indistinct] some other place. [Words indistinct] depends on the will of [words indistinct] we are not going to achieve anything [passage indistinct] the third time, and I am not going. I prefer to ask for retirement or a discharge, but I am not going anywhere.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Pardon me?

[Question] How do you think they should proceed to replace General Garcia?

[Answer] Well, I believe that there is an assembly for these purposes, a Constituent Assembly that is the top power. We should recall that all power should be subordinate to the Constituent Assembly.

[Passage indistinct] the members of the General Staff have to be members of the military, but a defense minister does not necessarily have to be a member of the military.

[Words indistinct] a true democracy, and coordinate military power with political power. Right now we have the power of the people represented by a Constituent Assembly. [Words indistinct] was obtained as the result of an election, of a demonstration of the people's will on 28 March. [Words indistinct] we of the military and some civilians are somewhat disappointed by some of the things that are taking place.

[Question] [Words indistinct] the corruption of General Garcia. Is there any specific [word indistinct] or aspect of thiscorruption that you would like to denounce?

[Answer] I believe that we call all dishonest actions corruption, right? And to try to impose [words indistinct] by force is a dishonest action. You may have learned from the newspapers of the anomalous situations that have been discovered in state [passage indistinct]. We know that he has [word indistinct] in Miami, and that his family is in Miami. My family is here in El Salvador. My children study in Salvadoran schools. [long round of applause]

I would like to say that we have stayed in El Salvador, running all the risks that a war entails. [Words indistinct] we do not want them to try to impose systems through promotions, because too many persons were promoted [words indistinct]. They should do this with the personnel that have the capabilities, and not with those who bow their heads to the orders from the minister. I believe that the people must choose [words indistinct]. This is corruption. It is corruption. [passage indistinct]

This is not democracy. And if this is the democracy that General Garcia (?wants), I prefer to leave the army because it is not worthwhile to continue struggling under these circumstances, and I would seek another path of struggle, but [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] No, none at all. To the contrary, I did not receive a call from the U.S. Embassy until today, asking me what was taking place. The truth is that I do not see any reason why we should consult the North Americans about what we are going to do. We are a country. [applause] [end recording]

That, dear listeners, was applause from the civilian authorities who were present in Colonel Ochoa's office while he was explaining to national and international newsmen about his rebellion against Defense Minister General Garcia's decision to send him to Uruguay as the military attache at our embassy there. This is the end of our special feature from Sensuntepeque, Cabanas Department.

Cabanas Governor Holds Interview

PA082122 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Interview with (Miguel Antonio Larrainaga), political governor of Cabanas Department; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Governor, can you tell us what kind of support Col Sigfredo Ochoa, the military officer in rebellion, is receiving from the civilian authorities and the civilians of this department?

[Answer] We completely support the department military commander, Colonel Ochoa Perez, because he has labored honestly and worked overtime to pacify this region and to help anyone needing help. Therefore, we are participating in this movement in view of the accusations and lies launched against him -- undoubtedly as a result of envy -- from the high command, or perhaps from the defense minister.

He is being accused of things he has not done. We are to [words indistinct] the entire Department of Cabanas. This morning we will have a meeting similar to that of yesterday, when we had some 3,000 persons. Today we expect to have twice that number of people in the park. We don't accept having the colonel taken away from us in this department. The charges against him are completely false. They have said that he has accepted an administrative job proposed to him by a party. This is a lie. If the colonel is with us in the mortgage and agricultural and livestock development bank, it is because the ministry, the high command, asked him to be a member, but not because he sought the appointment. He does not like positions of that kind. What happened is that a friend of the minister requested a 500,000-colon credit, and his only guarantee was four cows and his land. The colonel told him this was no guarantee, and that the credit could not be granted. Then the other members of the board of directors, in view of the support that he was giving, denied the credit.

This is one of the reasons for the false charges. They have also charged that Ochoa has bought watches with stolen money. This is false. He has given watches to all the troops here because we, the authorities committee, had decided to demonstrate our appreciation for those little soliders who are making sacrifices in the hills, in trenches, defending those of us who are in the cities. Therefore, that was a lie. We had a fiesta in which all the citizens of the department participated. We had a dance and barbeque at [words indistinct] and people came from all the towns in the department, from Tejutepeque, Jutiapa, Cinquera, San Isidro, from every town. We collected almost 15,000 colones because many businesses donated merchandise, and it was put on auction. We mobilized the people of Cabanas to demonstrate to the little soldiers that they have true support. Those gifts were from us. The colonel did not steal the money.

I have said that Colonel Ochoa is being accused of belonging to a party.

[Question] To what party?

[Answer] They are saying Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance]. But I know that he is not inclined toward Arena. I belong to the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. I don't believe that accusation -- which I could use to my advantage -- is true. We are sincere and just people, and we are just seeing how he is being denigrated. The parties here, Arena, the PCN [National Conciliation Party] and the PDC are united to defend him.

Last night we had a meeting with all the party representatives here in Cabanas to deny these charges. For this reason, we ask the people of the republic to support us in this regard, since we are fighting corruption.

[Question] Mr Governor, it has been reported that there is a negotiating commission headed by Colonel Blandon. What has been discussed with him?

[Answer] This is true. Colonel Blandon spoke with Colonel Ochoa yesterday. We were present. A proposal was made. It called for the dismissal of the minister, and it also called for the revoking of the order transferring Colonel Ochoa because it is unjust. A man cannot be rewarded with dismissal or with sending him out of the country when he has worked hard for his department.

Colonel Blandon was given a proposal giving Colonel Garcia a month to resign because he has permitted corruption, and corruption is bad. We have supported the proposal calling for the revoking of the order; and in addition to this, Garcia has been given enough time to prepare his things so that he can leave his post because, as we have said, he has permitted corruption in the country.

[Question] Did Colonel Blandon bring a proposal from the armed forces high command?

[Answer] He did not bring any proposal. He just brought the order against the colonel.

[Question] It has been reported that the Cabanas Military Detachment No 2 in Sensuntepeque has the support of other detachments. Is this true?

[Answer] We know that it is true. This is just. We ask detachments that are commanded by honest colonels to support this movement, which is the flame being lit to combat corruption in the country. Corruption must be fought with actions and not words or promises.

[Question] Which detachments support you?

[Answer] I don't really know if I can tell you, since there are rumors here, and I might not have the exact names. However, I think we have the support of the air force and the Atonal detachment of Usulutan and San Miguel.

[Question] Do you think this situation will be solved in the next few days; and if it isn't, do you think that you would be placing the national unity government in danger?

[Answer] We in Cabanas Department are carrying out a true government of national unity. I think the government of national unity in the rest of the country is false because each person pulls in his own direction and has his own ambitions. Now then, I have told these gentlemen who are opposing the Cabanas Department action that the only ones who will be the winners will be the guerrillas. We here are fighting the guerrillas and the corruption in the country. That is the banner we have raised. The repercussions that this might have on the national government depend on General Garcia. We state that he will be responsible for what occurs in the future. We make him resonsible for what might occur because it all depends on him. For example, he has ordered the detachment that is stationed in Cuscatlan to put up roadblocks so that no one can pass to Sensuntepeque. Why are they preventing free movement? The people who use the road have nothing to do with this. If they are coming, it is because what we seek is the right thing.

Statement by Mediator

PA080604 San Salvador Radio Sonora in Spanish 0450 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Col Adolfo Blandon, chief of the 1st Infantry Brigade of San Salvador, arrived in Sensuntepeque this morning to serve as mediator in the problem that has arisen with the commander of Military Department Detachment No 2, Col Sigfredo Ochoa. As has been reported, Colonel Ochoa refused to obey an order from Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia transferring him to the Salvadoran Embassy in Uruguay as military attache. On this situation we will hear the words of Colonel Blandon and Colonel Ochoa, both referring to the problem. At the beginning Colonel Blandon replied to questions from the newscast El Dia and from the stations of the Inter-Central Ame ican Radio Organization, OIR.

He said: [Begin recording] [Passage of unidentified speaker introducing Blandon indistinct] [applause]

[Blandon] It is truly stimulating for the men in armed forces uniform to see this demonstration of love and admiration for Colonel Ochoa that you are expressing with your presence here this afternoon. This demonstration of love and admiration is not only for his person but for all the soldiers in the country.

Definitely [words indistinct] in moments when the country needs the armed forces [words indistinct] surely the subversives are very pleased to see us in this situation. I am here with the authorization of the high command, and representing the armed forces, in order to find the solution to this problem. We all know the qualities of Colonel Ochoa. He is a great commander. He has kept this whole region calm and has provided you an atmosphere of peace and work that the population of any part of the country would like to have.

I want to tell you very frankly that we will search for the most viable solution, the most adequate, the most just solution, but above all [words indistinct] the position (?not only) of the armed forces (?that will be acceptable). I give you my assurance, and after this meeting I invite you to go back to your homes, your work places and your schools.

I am well aware of what is happening here and have spoken with the officers, and I see some alternatives for the solution. For the good of the country [words indistinct] at this moment (?implore) Almighty God to [words indistinct] the price [words indistinct] so that this problem will be solved as soon as possible for the good of all of us.

[Unidentified speaker] Friends of Sensuntepeque, [words indistinct] an enemy who uses every opportunity to gain an advantage. However, we are alert [words indistinct]. The armed forces are with you. This problem is practically a family problem, and I am certain that we will solve it within the family. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

Communique on Mediator's Visit

PA090421 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0322 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Communique No 2 issued by Military Detachment No 2 on 7 January at Sensuntepeque, Cabanas Department; read by department military commander Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez -- recorded]

[Text] Communique No 2 of Military Detachment No 2, Sensuntepeque, issued at 2400 hours on 7 January 1983: The chiefs, officers, troops, administrative personnel and military band of Military Detachment No 2 and the Cabanas Infantry Battalion, BIC, greet the heroic Salvadoran people and their glorious armed forces.

In the face of the current crisis provoked by the defense and public security minister, on 6 January ... [corrects himself] -- on 7 January 1983 at 1100 hours Col Adolfo Blandon, member of the General Staff, presented himself to this department, representing the defense minister, to learn on the spot the reasons that prompted the refusal to recognize the authority of General Garcia.

After speaking to the chiefs and officers of the BIC and of Military Detachment No 2, and to their commander, Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, he was told in a disciplined way of our decision to maintain our initial demands at whatever cost, because we owe loyalty and justice to the Salvadoran people, and primarily to the residents of Cabanas Department, who have taken to the streets of Sensuntepeque to hold a demonstration of more than 10,000 persons in the [name indistinct] square to express unconditional support for Colonel Ochoa Perez and the BIC. We reiterate that the current defense minister, Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, has betrayed the armed forces proclamation of 15 October 1979 by lying to the armed forces; by presenting one situation and acting in a different manner, thereby generating insecurity among middle-level officers; by allowing the unnecessary prolongation of the current war situation to the detriment of our institution, our people, the economy and the democratization process; and by pursuing personal and political ambitions and using his post and the armed forces to achieve them. We therefore request:

1. That the president of the republic and commanding general of the Armed Forces remove the defense and public security minister from his post.

2. That the honorable Constituent Assembly heed our request for the good of the country and the armed forces.

3. That our comrades-in-arms who have not yet done so express their support for this request.

4. That the Salvadoran people understand that this is not a political movement or a coup d'etat, but an eminently institutional movement, and that they keep calm and rest assured that this problem will be solved favorably for the sake of justice and the welfare of our heroic people.

Long live the armed forces. Signed by all the chiefs and officers of Military Detachment No 2

Garcia Will Not Resign

PA092225 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2151 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia told ACAN-EFE today that he would not resign, and that he has the 100-percent support of President Alvaro Magana, who is also commander in chief of the armed forces. Garcia said that he has the support of all of the country's military chiefs except Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, who has been leading a military uprising in Cabanas since Thursday.

The defense minister said he will remain at his post and that he is at the disposition of President Magana, "because in a military institution orders are always received from the top and never from the bottom."

General Garcia said that a Defense Ministry commission composed of the chiefs of various military units is meeting at Cabanas to talk with Ochoa Perez and "look for a peaceful solution to the problem, discarding any violent attitude."

He added that Ochoa Perez "has violated discipline and, as a soldier, should have obeyed the order transferring him to the Salvadoran diplomatic mission in Uruguay, which I signed under instructions from the commander in chief of the armed forces."

The defense minister said that "if the Cabanas uprising had been successful it would have been a negative step in El Salvador's democratization process."

Garcia announced that an official army communique will be released in the next few hours and stressed that thus far he has learned nothing about the results of the talks held by the military commission in Cabanas.

He added that international public opinion "can rest assured that there is calm in the country; that there are no serious disturbances; and that, fortunately, we have the ability to solve our problems."

Mediation Commission Appointed

PA091759 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1718 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 9 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- A commission appointed by the Salvadoran Defense Ministry will meet today Sunday, with the rebel military officers of Detachment No 2 in the central Department of Cabanas. The rebel officers are demanding the resignation of Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia.

The commission, led by Col Rafael Flores Lima, chief of staff of the Salvadoran Armed Forces, will analyze the situation and mediate between rebel Commander Sigfredo Ochoa Perez and Defense Minister General Garcia, against whom Ochoa has leveled serious charges.

Other members of the commission are Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, director of the National Guards; the commander of the Salvadoran Air Force; Col Adolfo Oneciforo Blandon, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade; Col Jaime Nelson Flores, commander of the military brigade in San Miguel, the third most important city in El Salvador; and the commanders of the Atonal, Ramon Belloso and Atlacatl rapid deployment battalions.

Colonel Ochoa Perez told ACAN-EFE today that the Cabanas Detachment, based in Sensuntepeque, continues to await a solution to the problem and that he maintains his position that the defense minister must resign.

Ochoa said that so far he has talked twice by telephone with President Alvaro Magana, "but he has made no statement regarding a settlement of the situation and we suppose that he supports Garcia."

More on Commission

PA100041 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0111 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Excerpts] A group of high-ranking authorities flew to Sensuntepeque today to try and solve the military crisis caused by the rebellion of Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, military commander of Cabanas Department. Colonel Ochoa, one of the harshest but also one of the most popular officers in the Salvadoran Army, announced on Friday that he refused to recognize the authority of the Defense Department and demanded that Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia resign.

Before the arrival of the delegation, Colonel Ochoa told the REUTER NEWS AGENCY that a possible solution of the crisis could consist of his own as well as General Garcia's resignation. He gave no further details.

The negotiating group is composed of the commanders of the Belloso, Atlacatl and Atonal Battalions, which were trained in the United States, and Gen Carlos Eugenio Vides, chief of the Civil Guard. The chief of the delegation, Rafael Flores Lima, surprisingly did not travel with the rest of the group, and his absence was not explained.

Rally Supports Ochoa

PA100251 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0131 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Sensuntepeque, El Salvador, 9 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Thousands of people today gathered in the main square of this departmental capital to express support for the rebel officer who is demanding that Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia resign. Co Sigfredo Ochoa Perez stated Wednesday that he rejects the defense minister's authority and demands his resignation.

Almost 5 hours of talks between the rebel leader and a delegation of top-level officers ended today without any concrete results. Ochoa said later, "if the conditions that we have presented are not accepted, I will only leave this department dead...I will stay in this department to the death."

Ochoa was referring to his demand that Garcia resign and that President Alvaro Magana assume command of the 24,000 men of the armed forces.

Meanwhile, crowds estimated at between 4,000 and 5,000 by departmental authorities chanted slogans supporting Ochoa and heard speeches praising him for his efforts to pacify Cabanas and conduct reforms.

Before today's attempt to put an end to the first act of open military rebellion since the civil war started in El Salvador 3 years ago, Ochoa told REUTER that he believes the crisis can be overcome through Garcia's and his own resignation.

However, diplomatic sources in El Salvador said that Garcia, the only man who survived a series of cabinet changes since 1979, seemed to be willing to lose his influential post as defense minister. [Sentence as received]

The sources said that Garcia apparently ordered Ochoa's transfer to get rid of a potential rival. The two men have disagreed in the past, and since his rebellion Ochoa has described Garcia as "little Hitler," and has accused him of handling the ministry like a feudal lord.

19 Jan Ochoa Interview

PA100236 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0110 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Telephone Interview granted from Sensuntepeque, Sabanas Department, by Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, commander of Military Detachment No 2 -- live]

[Text] [Ochoa] Good evening. Here I am, ready for any matter.

[Question] Colonel, we want to relay in your own voice to the Salvadoran people the official details of the meeting you held today with Col (Carlos) Eugenio Vides Casanova and the commanders of the Atlacatl, Atonal and Ramon Belloso Battalions.

[Answer] Yes. This morning at 1000, General Vides Casanova, National Guard director; Colonel (Mendez) of the Ramon Belloso Battalion; Colonel Monterrosa of the Atlacatl Battalion; Colonel (Calixto) of the Atonal Battalion; and Col Jaime Nelson Florez of the 3d Infantry Brigade arrived here personally. We talked frankly and openly with them in private. As comrades-in-arms, we gave them our viewpoints and the reason that forced us to adopt this attitude. We have always been obedient. We have struggled and have not gone out for days. [as heard] However, upon the arrival of Order No 1, which practically caused this situation, I talked on the phone directly with the chief of the General Staff to outline the situation. However, all he did was say that things were bad, and they did not try to make any contact afterward.

We expected somebody to come here to talk with us before things went any further. However, they took it lightly and we had no other recourse but to do what we have done. And we insist on our position that the person responsible for the situation in the country is Gen Guillermo Garcia, becuse of the fact that he regards himself as the strong man.

We are not allowed to say anything. There are many officers who would like to say this but, well, there was no opportunity until now, when the straw broke the camel's back. We here are ready for anything. We told them that the options they brought to us were not viable because they only demand that we leave, and (?not him).

The truth is that we are not responsible for this situation. On the contrary, I do not know why he wants to disarm a battalion that has practically kept an entire department under control. He is accusing me now of being rightist. He previously accused me of being leftist. He said that I kept the department in peace because I had made a pact with subversion.

These things are completely false. Most officers and chiefs and the civilian population know me. They can attest to the fact that I do not belong to any particular party. Proof of this is that the civilian population has been siding with me for 3 days, without any effort on my part to sway them. They learned that I was leaving and called a public demonstration. This is known to all the newsmen here.

I cannot hide anything from the people. They have tried to stop reports from going out and to stop the people from learning about this.

There are laws regarding the Interior Ministry and the Information Secretariat of the Presidency protecting the people's right to be informed, and things cannot be handled by a single man as he pleases. We have learned that in the same way that he has been misdirecting the armed forces, he has given orders that nothing can be reported.

However, this cannot be covered up. The sun cannot be concealed with one finger. We are prepared to report the truth to our comrades. We ask our comrades-in-arms for moral support, not support in any other way. They must not be afraid, let them tell the truth.

We know that there are persons who are worried about this because they have been protected by him, like a godfather or something. Well, the Salvadoran people must slowly become aware.

We are asking for the support of the companeros, the support of the armed forces, of all the forces of the country, to see that this situation is concluded once and for all. We are unduly prolonging this war because of a mismanagement of military policy. I believe that General Garcia has only used the armed forces for his personal benefit. He says one thing and does another. We, the military, feel insecure. We are here today and, and over there tomorrow. They have done this thing without first telling me. As a soldier I can accept an order for an internal transfer. However, I prefer to be placed on inactive duty if the minister does not leave. However, if he goes and they want me to go also, let them say so. There is no problem. If I am responsible -- if I am, as he says, at fault for this situation -- then for the welfare of the armed forces, and the people and the country I will make any sacrifice. I say again that this is not a coup d'etat. We obey the president of the republic as our commander in chief, and we are asking him respectfully to demand General Garcia's resignation.

They say that this is not the right moment. If today is not the right moment, there will never be a right moment, because this will generate more serious problems later on.

Therefore, we also ask the honorable legislative assembly not to turn a deaf ear to our request. This is a very delicate matter. It is a whole battalion that is rejecting the minister's authority. There is no longer any confidence in the minister. And the whole department is behind the battalion.

[Question] Colonel, we would like you to tell us how far the negotiations have progressed with the high-level commission that came to Sensuntepeque headed by Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, director general of the National Guard, and whether negotiations will resume tomorrow, Monday.

[Answer] We made our proposal, which we consider balanced, but I cannot tell you yet what this consists of because I imagine that the companeros are still meeting. We asked them to call us, and not to turn a deaf ear to our request, and to make our proposal known to our companeros, since the majority have not been consulted by the commanders. We believe, we know, that we violated military regulations, but we were obliged to by the situation. There was no other way to protest; there was no other way to make ourselves heard.

We believe that the negotiations are underway, and we are waiting. We have received no call since they left. We have confidence in our companeros. They came with an idea for the minister. Today, after they heard us, I believe that they are taking the truth with them. All we ask for is the truth.

There have really been only two commanders here who had met with their officers. One was Colonel Bustillos, from the air force. We have the complete support of the pilots. They know what the situation is on a national scale. They were also going to demand the resignation of the minister, before this happened.

Colonel Blandon, for whom I have much respect and love, has given us his moral support, not any other kind of support. He has been asked to have our views heard, our view that the minister should, out of shame, leave now. It was the minister who made things run over.

[Question] Col Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, in conclusion, when it is 1915 and our listeners know that we are in direct contact with you, here is a last question: Has President Alvaro Magana, who is also the commander in chief of the armed forces, called you by telephone or contacted you in any other way, personally?

[Answer] Yes, yesterday we had a contact with the president, the commander in chief, of the armed forces. I briefed him on the situation and asked him to use his good offices as the commander that he is, because it is the president who should manage policy through his defense minister, and the General Staff should implement the plans. Afterward, he told me that he was going to talk...[changes thought] he said that he had been in contact with the high command, but I have had no communication other than that which the companeros brought today. We are in the process of negotiating.

GUATEMALA

TALKS WITH UK ON BELIZE TO RESUME 24 JANUARY

PA090017 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1811 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemala and the United Kingdom will resume talks regarding the territory of Belize on 24 January at the UN. This was reported today in Guatemala City by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola. The head of Guatemalan diplomacy said that the two governments had agreed to restart the dialogue regarding the territorial dispute that has been going on for more than 150 years, and that "1983 will be inaugurated with bilateral negotiations at the UN."

Castillo Arriola, former Guatemalan ambassador at the UN, said that the Rios Montt Government seeks an understanding with the Belizean authorities that will be "reasonable, fair and acceptable."

The minister said that he will not take part in the talks, although he displayed optimism when he stressed that should they arrive "at the doors of a solution," he could meet with high-ranking British "Foreign Office" authorities.

SPOKESMAN ON RESUMPTION OF U.S. MILITARY AID

PA090026 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0010 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 7 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan Government is very pleased with the reestablishment of U.S. military aid, made possible by the improvement in the respect for human rights by the current regime.

A communique issued by the U.S. Embassy has confirmed that the State Department approved the cash sale of $4 million in "spare parts and items for flight security" for army helicopters. The spare parts for these helicopters are of vital importance for the Efrain Rios Montt regime, since 6 of its 11 "Bell 412 and 212" military helicopters are out of service because of a lack of spare parts.

Although the embassy and the local authorities have not specified the type of materiel (they only mention spare parts), President Rios Montt asked President Ronald Reagan for old rifles during their meeting in Honduras in December. These old weapons, according to the leader, will be given to the civil patrol organized by the army to fight the guerrillas.

The Guatemalan Government received the news with pleasure, and the official spokesman, Gonzalo Asturias, said that this U.S. attitude will enable the current regime to continue its advances in the respect for human rights. Asturias said that "Guatemala does not wish to be on the blacklist, and it wants to have free access to the United States in every field."

"We don't want sophisticated material because we are not going to engage in an arms race. We only want simple weapons to fight the guerrilla movement," Asturias added.

PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT CONFIRMS CABINET OFFICERS

PA072012 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1929 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 7 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- All ministers in the Guatemalan Cabinet but for the education minister and the president of the Central Bank were confirmed in their posts today by President Efrain Rios Montt. Of the rest of the presidential team, only some vice ministers and officials will be replaced.

Rios Montt explained that the decision to replace Education Minister Luis Merida simply reflects a change in the country's educational policy. Rolando Mora is to replace Merida, who will be appointed the ambassador to Colombia, the president announced.

Armando Gonzalez Campo is the new president of the Central Bank, replacing Jorge Gonzalez del Valle, who resigned over differences with the minister of economy and finance.

On the educational issue, Rios Montt said that the Education Ministry is preparing a "single text" that summarize basic subjects like reading, mathematics, geography, history and civic education. The government will distribute the text, which will be sold for at half a quetzal (1 quetzal being equivalent to a U.S. dollar).

The idea of the single text was proposed by Rios Montt during his 1974 presidential campaign. On that occasion, his opponents branded him a communist for trying to promote a test like those used in communist countries.

COLONEL GORDILLO DISCHARGED; EXPLAINS POSITION

PA091504 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Col Francisco Gordillo was advised yesterday of his discharge from the army because he voiced some political opinions, thus ignoring the army regulation that forbids service members from making political statements. The regulations also establish that a service member's duty is to obey, and not to question.

Yesterday, Colonel Gordillo confirmed that he received the official notification. He said that when he expressed his opinion on Guatemala's current problems, the measures taken and those that should be taken, he did so as a former member of the military junta that deposed the previous government.

Since Gordillo was a junta member, he is interested in seeking the best possible solution to the problems. For this reason, he expressed his opinion, he added.

The authorities had mentioned Colonel Gordillo among those who were planning a coup for 20 October. The plan was discovered by the authorities and the security forces. It was reported that four colonels and several civilians were involved; however, no details of the plot have been revealed.

According to the army's public relations department, Colonel Gordillo's discharge from the army is a routine matter. It was said there that all military officers know that they are not permitted to make political statements. The public relations department added that army officers may be discharged after they have made such statements and that such is Colonel Gordillo's case.

It was added that his case is normal within the army, but it has made the news because he had become a junta member on 23 March.

Col Francisco Luis Gordillo does not consider his discharge a dishonor or a stigma. He believes that he has always done his duty according to what he learned at the Polytechnical school and that has been a honorable citizen. Colonel Gordillo made it clear that he is leaving the army with his head held high and without having enriched himself; he is leaving the army poor and without money.

HONDURAS

U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA081617 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Gen William Odom, assistant general staff chief for U.S. Army Intelligence, arrived this afternoon in Tegucigalpa from San Salvador [as heard] for a 1-day visit, it has been officially announced.

Upon arrival, General Odom was greeted by U.S. Embassy officials and members of the Honduran Armed Forces. While here, General Odom will meet with Col Jose Bueso, chief of Military Intelligence of Honduras [as heard], and with other military men.

So far there is no plan for meeting with Honduran Armed Forces Chief Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez. Official sources have also said that neither will Odom meet with President Suazo Cordova. Odom will travel to Panama tomorrow afternoon and from Panama he will return directly to the United States.

PINEDA LOPEZ APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO NICARAGUA

PA071436 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Doctor Hector Alfonso Pineda Lopez, which Ocotepeque, has been appointed the new Honduran ambassador to Nicaragua. The appointment was confirmed after the Sandinist regime approved the proposal presented by the presidency through the Foreign Relations Ministry. The news will be released tomorrow in an official communique to be issued by the presidency's Press Office.

Pineda Lopez replaces Roberto Martinez Ordonez, who has been appointed permanent Honduran ambassador to the OAS, headquartered in Washington, D.C., as of 1 January 1983. The report reveals that the new Honduran ambassador was the ambassador to Costa Rica during Dr Ramon Villeda Morales' constitutional and democratic administration. The diplomat will leave soon to present his credentials to the Sandinist Government commanders.

This appointment is considered highly important, given the status of the two countries' relations and the Honduran Government's efforts to normalize them. Finally, it is appropriate to mention that during President Roberto Suazo Cordova's recent visit to Nicaraguan Ambassador Guillermo Suarez Rivas, they spoke privately about the Sandinist regime's approval of the Foreign Ministry's proposal that Alfonso Pineda Lopez be appointed the new head of the Honduran diplomatic mission in Nicaragua.

NONALIGNED SUMMIT OBSERVER STATUS SOUGHT

PA071902 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Relations Secretariat has said that the Honduran Government, in accordance with its policy of peace and understanding through dialogue with all the world's people, has decided to present itself as a candidate for observer status at the next nonaligned summit meeting, which will take place in New Delhi in March. We are pleased to report that the illustrious government of the Republic of Argentina has offered its valuable support for Honduras' candidacy.

In addition, the Honduran Foreign Ministry has said that, with the same intention of further strengthening the bonds of sincere friendship with the Central American countries, Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica has accepted with pleasure the cordial invitation of his excellency Juan Jose Amado III, Panamanian Foreign Affairs Minister, for an official visit to that fraternal country in the near future.

NICARAGUA

SECOND PROTEST NOTE FOR 1983 SENT TO U.S.

PA091700 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1522 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 9 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government has sent to the United States its second note of protest so far this month, this time in connection with the murder of two coffee pickers. The murders are attributed to anti-Sandinist groups.

The note sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz states that the coffee pickers were killed by Somozist groups "that operate from Honduran territory thanks to the help and sponsorship of the U.S. Government." The note was sent to the State Department yesterday. Its text was released in Managua today and identifies the dead coffee pickers as Javier Soto Calderon and Leonardo Martinez Rodriguez.

According to the official note, the Somozists who carried out the killings came from Honduran territory, to which they returned after "committing the act of barbarism." D'Escoto told Shultz that the events "can only cause a greater worsening of the present crisis in the Central American region, a situation that obliges peace-loving nations to redouble their efforts and to insist on the peace initiatives that have been proposed by Nicaragua and by other countries in the area."

VISITING U.S. MISSION LEAVES FOR HONDURAS

PA071800 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] The U.S. Army mission that visited our country for 24 hours left for Honduras today after meeting with Brigadier Commander Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of general staff of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and deputy defenseminister. Here is a report by reporter (Luis Cabrera):

[Begin relay] Brig Commander Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of the EPS General Staff and deputy defense minister, met with Brig Gen William E. Odom, assistant general staff chief for intelligence, G-2, of the U.S. Army.

As is known, General Odom, who has held the posts of assistant military attache in the USSR and military assistant to the U.S. President's National Security Affairs adviser, arrived in Nicaragua yesterday on a visit on which both the EPS and the Defense Ministry reported. General Odom met Brigadier Commander Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of the EPS General Staff and deputy defense minister.

Capt Roberto Sanchez, chief of Public and International Relations of the Defense Ministry, has reported that the visit ended in the morning and that, based on available information, the North American delegation is headed eventually for El Salvador. He said that the visit took place within the levels of this delegation and of that headed by General Odom, [as heard]

No mention was made of the topics discussed during the meeting with Commander Cuardo Lacayo, but it was learned that the meeting's proceedings adhered to the rules of courtesy and respect observed with visitors from the U.S. Army and the General Staff of U.S. Army Intelligence.

Captain Sanchez added that the entire meeting was held within the framework of dignity and respect that characterizes the army of a sovereign and independent country like Nicaragua. We feel, Sanchez said, that the meeting was handled correctly and that the talks have further clarified the principles that guide the revolution's leaders in defense and in the pursuit of peace, but without undermining the interests of the Nicaraguan people and government.

This is all we have been able to learn in regard to this visit, in which Col (Dale E. Bollert), military attache in Honduras; Lt Col (Henry Nevares), G-2 General Staff officer for Latin American Affairs; and Maj (David Young), Southern Command Intelligence officer, also participated.

Therefore, we reiterate that Brig Commander Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, deputy defense minister and chief of the EPS General Staff, led the delegation that received General Odom, not at the airport but at a closed-door meeting. [end relay]

Havana Report on Visit

PA080217 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Maj Gen William E. Odom, assistant General Staff chief for intelligence of the U.S. Army, on Thursday ended a less than a 24-hour visit to Nicaragua, where he was received at the installations of the Sandinist People's Army General Staff.

The U.S. delegation included Col (Dale E. Bollert), military attache in Honduras; Maj (David Young), intelligence officer of the Southern Command; and Lt Col (Henry Nevares), officer in charge of Latin American Affairs.

The U.S. Pentagon viewed the visit to Managua as a courtesy visit. The assistant U.S. Army General Staff chief for intelligence met with Nicaraguan Deputy Defense Minister Joaquin Cuadra.

U.S. State Department spokesman (John Hughes) said that the visit to Managua of Odom and the delegation accompanying him did not constitute a new initiative dealing with Nicaragua, nor did it represent a reply to the Sandinist Government's recent protest note, which is being studied and analyzed.

After its visit to Nicaragua, the U.S. delegation left for El Salvador for routine visits that also include the former Canal Zone and Honduras.

CASTRO COMMENTS ON SALVADORAN CONFLICT

FL081241 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Havana -- Cuban President Fidel Castro has asserted that the situation in El Salvador has only a political solution, and that the United States has systematically opposed that way out. I can assert that the Salvadoran revolutionary forces are willing to negotiate, but only the Salvadorans can decide the path most convenient to them, the Cuban leader stated. He added that neither the Soviet Union nor we are involved in El Salvador. The Soviets do not even know that country's revolutionary leaders and we, who do know them, can only give them our opinions.

The Cuban president noted that the North Americans are the only ones opposing a negotiated solution in El Salvador. Referring to the Salvadoran situation, Fidel Castro said that all reasonable Latin American and European political forces favor dialogue. These include Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, France and Spain. The Cuban leader added that the political solution will also benefit those countries, the United States and the rest of humanity, because not having such conflicts in Central America, the Middle East or Africa, definitely contributes to world peace.

Fidel Castro said that U.S. political forces are divided on this Central American problem, so President Ronald Reagan is running into a Congress and a media that are seeking a way out of the crisis and, in this sense, are contributing to make the dialogue a reality.

FIDEL CASTRO DECORATES L.A. INTELLECTUALS

FL071515 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night decorated the outstanding intellectuals Gabriel Garcia Marquez of Colombia, Mario Benedetti of Uruguay and Pablo Casanova of Mexico with the Felix Varela Order, first class.

Fidel Castro arrived at the ceremony in the company of former Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen who arrived yesterday afternoon on an invitation of the Cuban Government to attend the decoration ceremony which included Gabriel Garcia Marquez, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Armando Hart, member of the Politburo and Minister of Culture, delivered a speech awarding the highest cultural distinction of the Cuban Government. Hart said that this award is of a very selective nature because it is the highest distinction which our state confers on personalities of the intellectual world. He added that there was no need to exalt the merits of the intellectuals being decorated because their merits are very well known. Hart emphasized that by bestowing upon them this distinction we are reaffirming our faith in the common destiny of our America, from the Rio Grande to Patagonia.

Hart also said: In reference to former Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, that we are honored by the participation of an outstanding Colombian political figure. Hart pointed out that Michelsen's presence confirms the profound Latin American nature of a fraternal meeting among friends.

CASTRO: U.S. OPPOSES PEACEFUL REGIONAL SOLUTION

PA081558 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Cuba's supreme leader, Fidel Castro, said today in Havana that peace in Central America does not depend exclusively on Latin Americans. He added that it is the United States which systematically opposes a peaceful settlement in the region.

During a gathering with Colombian journalists accompanying former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen on his visit to Cuba, Castro added that the U.S. Government must become convinced that it is losing the war and that a peaceful solution would benefit everyone. Answering questions from a Colombian newswoman, the Cuban president denied that the Soviet Union is in any way responsible for the situation in Central America. He added that revolution cannot be exported and that it is a mistake to think that Cuba is guiding and directing the Salvadoran revolutionaries. We can contribute to their struggle with ideas and opinions but they are the ones who adopt their line.

Castro referred to the contradictions between the U.S. Congress and President Ronald Reagan and said that these differences are reflected in the congressmen's opposition to the CIA's plans to destabilize Nicaragua.

Finally, he said that many governments are interested in the solution to the Central American conflict. He mentioned Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Spain, France, Sweden and Greece among them.

MOVES AGAINST NONALIGNED MEETING CRITICIZED

FL080330 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] The search for peace in the Central American region has become one of the main objectives of current international relations despite the intransigent attitude of the U.S. government against this goal.

The meeting to be held tomorrow on Isla Contradora, Panama between the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Panama and Colombia is aimed at achieving this end. During this meeting, they will try to reintroduce the initiative launched by the presidents of Mexico and Venezuela in September 1982 to eliminate the prevailing hot spot of conflicts along the Nicaraguan-Honduran border. As is well known, this conflict has been caused by the constant raids of paramilitary Somozist bands which attack Nicaragua from the Honduran side of the border.

The meeting of foreign ministers from these four nations, on this Panamanian island located in the Pacific Ocean, has considerable importance, as much for the reason it is being held as for its climactic international timing. These deliberations are going to take place almost on the eve of an extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement held in Managua to examine the tense and dangerous situation in the region and just shortly after the Honduran Government's failure to maneuver against the holding of this event. Honduras recently failed in a diplomatic maneuver aimed at getting the Mexican Government to join the so-called Forum for Peace and Democracy promoted by Washington after the Mexican-Venezuelan initiative to seek peace in Central America was put forth.

This forum -- which is an alliance of a few nations which lend themselves to U.S. plans against the Nicaraguan Government -- was formed at a meeting held in Costa Rica to which Thomas Enders, U.S. undersecretary of state for inter-American affairs, was especially invited. They have tried unsuccessfully to revive this forum, which hardly anyone has ever mentioned again, as a diversionary tactic against the important meeting of the Nonaligned Movement slated to open next Monday in Managua.

The Nonaligned Movement, the UN General Assembly and other international forums have declared themselves in favor of a negotiated settlement to the Central American conflict with the participation of all involved parties.

This formula does not please the U.S. Government since it would have to recognize revolutionary victories in that region.

Based on this U.S. strategy, the Honduran authorities have up to now evaded -- using several tricks -- the opening of negotiations with the Government of Nicaragua to seek a settlement to the conflict prevailing between the two countries which is encouraged by the U.S. interventionist attitude in the region.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON NONALIGNED SESSION

PY080221 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2045 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Havana, 7 Jan (TELAM/ANN) -- During an exclusive interview granted to this agency today, on the eve of the fifth meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said that Cuba will give its full support to and will participate in meetings aimed at strengthening Latin American unity at a time when the colonial occupation of the Malvinas Islands still prevents Argentina from assuming its sovereignty over that area. Malmierca condemned U.S. support for the British colonialist actions aimed at restoring their rule over the Malvinas, support which, he said, in April 1982 brought about the most serious crisis of the Inter-American system, a system designed for serving the interests of the enemies of our people.

He announced that the Managua meeting of the Nonaligned Movement, to be held from 10 to 14 January, will again address the Anglo-Argentine conflict. It is expected, Malmierca added that the meeting will find mechanisms for promoting relations between the nations of the continent at a time when a significant feeling of Latin American unity has flourished.

Our America, the one which begins at the Rio Grande and extends southward to Patagonia, must create mechanisms for coordinating and analyzing its policies and for increasing mutual assistance so that we can negotiate with our powerful neighbor, which has ignored our realities and acted as an enemy of our rights, Malmierca said.

The Cuban foreign minister proposed a joint effort for coordination and consultation, with meetings that should be attended by all nations of the region, even the English-speaking Caribbean countries, with a view toward creating a new institution that would actually defend Latin American interests.

Malmierca also said that the Nonaligned Movement will continue its struggle against the illegal occupation of territories such as the Panama Canal and the Guantanamo base, and against the construction of military bases by the United States in Honduras, Puerto Rico or in any other place from which it may seek to launch its aggressive actions against independent nations.

The Cuban foreign minister recalled that today, despite repeated efforts to ease tensions and to implement disarmament, all mankind is threatened by the feverish expansion of imperialism's aggressive plans. Our struggle against those plans will continue, he concluded, in an effort to safeguard peace.

DELEGATION TO MANAGUA NONALIGNED MEETING DEPARTS

FL081940 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] The Cuban delegation to the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau departed this morning for the Nicaraguan capital.

The group is headed by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee, and formed by Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon, Cuban Ambassador to the United Nations Raul Roa Kouri and Lazaro Mora, director of the Nonaligned Countries Desk of the Foreign Ministry.

Traveling aboard the same flight were members of the delegations from Vietnam, Democratic Korea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Iran, Argentina and several other nations.

Malmierca noted that the Managua meeting will make recommendations and proposals which could have an influence on a just solution, respectful to struggling peoples and helpful in attaining peace.

MALMIERCA EXPLAINS STAND ON AREA PROBLEMS

FL081925 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] U.S. acts of military, political and economic aggression against Cuba, Grenada and Nicaragua lead to a still more serious situation in the Central American and Caribbean area, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has stated in Managua, where he will participate in the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau beginning 10 January.

In an interview granted to the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY, Malmierca stated that the Cuban Government advocates a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis and will defend that stand in the Managua meeting. He indicated that a just solution to the situation in the area should be based on the peace initiatives submitted by Nicaragua and other Latin American countries and must have the participation of the Salvadoran revolutionary organizations.

The Cuban foreign minister stressed that our country will make every effort to ensure that the principles of peace, security and reciprocal respect constitute the foundation of relations among all countries in our America.

CHILE

FOREIGN DEBT PROJECTIONS, GROWTH NOTED

PY071825 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 26 Dec 82 p B 1

[Excerpt] According to the latest projections on the foreign debt, medium and long-term loans will amount to $14,334,000,000 by the end of the current year. Of this, $8,373,000,000 [figure as published] will have been contracted by the private sector and $5,461,000,000 by the public sector.

An analysis of the foreign debt's evolution over the last 4 years revealed that it has increased by 142 percent from 1978 to 1982. Obligations contracted by the private sector have increased the most, from $1,570,000,000 in 1978 to $8,873,000,000 this year. Public sector obligations have practically remained at the same level over the 1978-1981 period. This year they increased by 23 percent.

URUGUAY

MINIDEVALUATIONS, FIXED EXCHANGE RATES PLANNED

PY072245 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Relay from Government House]

[Excerpt] Central Bank President Julio Maria Puppo announced that the bank will again set the dollar rate on the basis of irregular minidevaluations and that the legal reserves of banks will increase by 100 percent with the purpose of reducing the money supply in the market. Puppo also said that the letter of intent that will be signed with the IMF on Monday or Tuesday will provide guarantees for savings accounts and that no parallel exchange market will be created in our country. Julio Maria Puppo also categorically ruled out the possibility that a new bank holiday might be put into effect or that the Uruguayan banking system might be nationalized.

Concerning the present exchange market situation, Mr Puppo said:

[Begin recording] [Puppo] From the very beginning we explained that ours was a transitory exchange policy. We do not know how long it will last, but the management of our reserves and our possibilities for contracting foreign loans will change substantially after the agreement with the IMF. We will adopt a different exchange policy which will be based on fixed exchange rates and on the [word indistinct] policy consisting of irregular minidevaluations.

[Question] When will this policy be adopted?

[Answer] We have not established a date yet, but we may apply it when we feel that the exchange rate (?has changed).

[Question] Taking into account the inflation rate and the present economic situation, what is, in your opinion, the real value of the dollar on the Uruguayan market?

[Answer] Look, I believe [words indistinct] that I endorse the contention that the dollar is overvalued. What I would like to say now, as I did before, is that the rules of the game have already been laid down. I can say that the dollar is overvalued, but the truth is that there are people who continue to buy at the present rate. Therefore, they believe that the dollar rate is still too low. [end recording]